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# RECREATION

— April 1942 —

## "Gathering May"

By Leah Sewell

## Folk Lore in Our Day

By Sarah Gertrude Knott

## Barnstorming in the Rockies

By Lillian von Qualen

## First Aid for Recreation Supplies

By L. A. Orsatti

## An Outdoor Carnival on the Playground

By Genevieve L. Braun

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# RECREATION

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## Table of Contents

	PAGE
"Gathering May," by Leah Sewell .....	3
A Timely Warning to Wartime America, by William H. Stoneman .....	6
Barnstorming in the Rockies, by Lillian von Qualen .....	7
Nature Recreation in Essex County's Parks, by L. C. Wilsey .....	11
There Is a Time for Play, by Thurman B. Rice, M.D. ....	12
Emergency Crafts, by A. F. Mainland .....	13
An Outdoor Carnival on the Playground, by Genevieve L. Braun .....	14
Recreation at Emergency Trailer Camps .....	16
A Mexican Fiesta, by Willie Madge Bryant .....	17
First Aid for Recreation Supplies, by L. A. Orsatti .....	20
Folk Lore in Our Day, by Sarah Gertrude Knott .....	23
Fishing—A Sport for All, by Francois D'Eliscu .....	27
In Defense of Recreation .....	31
Finger Puppets and How to Use Them .....	33
What They Say About Recreation .....	34
Gardening for Pleasure, by Ellen Eddy Shaw .....	35
Nature's Quiz-quest, by Ellsworth Jaeger .....	36
It's Being Done in Nature Recreation, by Cap'n Bill .....	37
The Dauphin County Folk Festival, by Mary Barnum Bush Hauck .....	39
The Festival of Nations .....	40
World at Play .....	41
Joseph Lee Day 1942 .....	42
National Story League to Meet .....	47
From the First Vice-President, National Recreation Association	
Ambassador John G. Winant .....	51
Magazines and Pamphlets .....	53
New Publications in the Leisure Time Field .....	55

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## A National Recreation Magazine Established Thirty-five Years Ago

FOR THIRTY-FIVE YEARS the National Recreation Association and the societies out of which it came have published each month a recreation magazine.

In April, 1907, the first issue of the magazine, which is now RECREATION, appeared under the name THE PLAYGROUND. The pages were only sixteen. The national organization then known as Playground Association of America was just twelve months old.

The first name which appears in the issue is Theodore Roosevelt. Other names are: Jacob Riis, Luther H. Gulick, Jane Addams, Joseph Lee, Felix Warburg, Henry S. Curtis, Mrs. Vladimir G. Simkhovitch, E. B. DeGroot, Charles F. Weller, Clark W. Hetherington.

In this first number of the recreation magazine there was mention of manual training, science, art; also of study rooms, lecture rooms.

Already there was much emphasis on play leaders and the help the colleges could give in training play leaders.

The words "leisure time" appear in April, 1907.

A picture of Theodore Roosevelt, Honorary President of the new society, was used, and the following letter from him which was addressed to the President of the Playground Association at Washington:



Published by courtesy Pearson's Magazine

### THEODORE ROOSEVELT

This picture of Theodore Roosevelt appeared in the first issue of *The Playground*

"I have been pleased to see also that there is a new interest in play and playgrounds all over the country, and that many cities that have not previously taken up the movement in a systematic way have made a beginning this year. In Germany a large number of games have been put into the school course as a part of the school system. In England football and cricket have been a part of the school course at Eton, Rugby and most of the other public and preparatory schools for many years. In the private schools of this country, similar to these English schools, such as Lawrenceville, Groton, St. Paul's and many

others, play is also provided for in the curriculum. I hope that soon all of our public schools will provide the place and time for the recreation as well as study of the children.

"Play is at present almost the only method of physical development for city children, and we must provide facilities for it if we would have the children strong and law-abiding. We have raised the age at which the child may go to work and increased the number of school years. These changes involve increased expense

for parents, with decreased return from the child. If we do not allow the children to work we must provide some other place than the streets for their leisure time. If we are to require the parents to rear the children at an increased expense for the service of the State, practically without return, the State should make the care of children as easy and pleasant as possible.

"City streets are unsatisfactory playgrounds for children, because of the danger, because most good games are against the law, because they are too hot in summer, and because in crowded sections of the city, they are apt to be schools of crime. \* \* \* In view of these facts, cities should secure available spaces at once, so that they may not need to demolish blocks of buildings in order to make playgrounds, as New York has had to do, at a cost of nearly \$1,000,000 an acre."

Theodore Roosevelt also wrote:

"Since play is a fundamental need, playgrounds should be provided for every child as much as schools."

"Neither must any city believe that simply to furnish open spaces will secure the best results. . . . They are apt to get into the possession of gangs and become the rendezvous of the most undesirable elements of the population. . . . Play is less systematic and vigorous without supervision."

Henry S. Curtis pointed out the advantages in combining playgrounds, public gymnasiums, baths, free public libraries, auditoriums, and thus building great social centers for the communities. The grouping of recreation opportunities seemed to him to bring much greater use,

"each feature drawing patronage to the other."

Luther Halsey Gulick, President of the Playground Association of America, wrote:

"A fundamental condition for the permanent development of a free people is that they shall in childhood learn to govern themselves. Self-government is to be learned as an experience, rather than taught as a theory. Hence in a permanent democracy, adequate playgrounds for all the children are a necessity."

Joseph Lee stated:

"What is wanted on a playground is not the teaching of baseball (it is difficult to prevent a boy from acquiring that accomplishment under any conditions), but the influence of a man or woman of high character. Children are very imitative; it is the incidental teaching by example that counts, especially on the moral side, and nowhere else does example count more than on the playground."

Thirty-five years ago when the first issue of the recreation magazine of the Association was printed, the early leaders, with great wisdom and with their feet on the ground, were planning very much of what has since been built up.

The recreation movement through the years has been an important, sizable, significant part of America. The movement has not sought nor has it had the publicity that certain other movements have, but as a friend of the society wrote a few days ago after studying its work—"Here is a real organization really serving without shouting."

*Howard Brancher*

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APRIL 1942

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## "Gathering May"

By LEAH SEWELL

Let us by all means keep  
alive here in America the  
beautiful custom of greet-  
ing the May and revive  
some of the simple and  
lovely old May Day revels

**M**AY DAY, according to voluminous record, has an ancient and very mixed ancestry. Simply by examining our own springtime feelings, however, we may say with authority that it is one of the most genuinely instinctive of all folk festival days.

The compilers of the church calendar named May first in honor of St. Philip and St. James the Less. But the return of spring, the flowering countryside, the song of the lark and the thrush made this present world so entrancing that the children of men could not readily turn their minds to heaven and its citizens. In May, they said in effect, earth was enough! And so its celebration throughout England, where it took on the character that still marks it for us, has been always chiefly secular and opportunist. "Seize the day!" "Begone, dull care!" "Gather hawthorn while ye may!"—to take liberties with Robert Herrick. (He, one feels certain, would gladly grant us this paraphrase of one of his best known lines, for his lyrics show how keenly he felt the rustle of the English spring.)

The antiquarians take us back thousands of years for the beginnings of May festivities. Ancient lore of Hindustan, Egypt, Phoenicia, Greece, and Italy, abounds in descriptions of spring rites, all very elemental and "earthy." They originated in the rural districts and gradually spread to the towns and cities where they fell into bad repute.

The old Saxons, in their literal, practical fashion, called the month of May "Tri-Mülch," because the pastures were so rich at that season that the cows gave milk three times a day.

When we think of May celebrations, however, we think chiefly of Middle England—England before steam and factory whistles had taken possession—England that was rugged, but merry, a truly "green and pleasant land."

The celebrations were country-wide—none so cloddish or over-prudent that he would not lay down rake and hoe to gather garlands, dance and sing to greet the May. Different sections had special local color and their own homely touches for the occasion.

In the Celtic communities—the Scottish highlands, Cornwall, the Isle of Man—fire-lighting on hilltops was a feature of the day until the early part of the nineteenth century. The Celts inherited this custom from the Druids, who lighted fires upon their cairns on the first of May in honor of Bel—the Baal of the Scriptures.

The Irish had their own version of this practice. They would light fires at intervals in their fields and have the cattle pass between them. To exorcise evil spirits, fathers would sometimes leap through the flames holding children in their arms.

In Anglo-Saxon parts of Great Britain the May ceremonies at first bore some likeness to the Roman

feasts in honor of Flora. These Floralia, as they were called, were said to have been instituted by Romulus, and they lasted from April 28th to May 2nd. They lapsed after a time and then, in 173 B. C., there was a sudden blight on buds and blossoms, and the feast was restored by senatorial decree.

The Maypole, so gay and so naive, is given a sinister origin by many wiseacres, but one wonders whether the rustics who delighted in dancing and making merry with the festooned and beribboned baubles were any more concerned with doubtful derivations than are our children today! The Puritans, to be sure, in America as well as in England, took exception to it. It was condemned by them as a "stinking idol," and was banned by the Roundhead Parliament in 1644. But at the Restoration of Charles II, the people, their May spirit unbroken by the long severity, erected a huge Maypole in the Strand which stood until 1717 and was finally purchased by no less a person than Sir Isaac Newton, who used it to support a great telescope.

The custom of carrying May dolls was popular throughout medieval England, and it survived until fairly recent times in Devonshire, Cornwall, and parts of Wales. This was a slight note of religion which crept into the revels, for the dolls often became a mother and child. Historians associate them with the Roman Flora, but in Tudor England it was the Virgin and Child who were remembered in this simple way. The May Queen, too, although a very worldly sovereign, was related in the minds of the people with the Virgin Mother, and to this day, in the Roman Catholic Church, May is called the month of Mary.

#### A New Spirit Enters

So much for the ancient background. But somehow —no one knows just when or where —Robin Hood made his way into the picture, merry men, Maid Marian and all, and one could readily brush aside all history and legend on the matter and believe that May Day came full-fledged out of Sherwood Forest in response to human necessity for a feast of joy and mirth.

From this time on, the

holiday naturally took on a new tone. The May games began, and —most natural and most delightful part of all —the custom of going to the woods about midnight and gathering branches of trees and flowers, coming back at sunrise, and decorating all the doors and windows throughout the villages with May garlands. This was called "gathering May," and as the hawthorn was in flower then, it began to be called May by the country folk.

It must have been on these excursions to the woods that the lasses took to washing their faces with dew. Mrs. Samuel Pepys, so her famous husband tells us, spent the eve of one May Day in Woolwich, "in order to be up betimes, to gather May-dew . . . the only thing in the world to wash her face with."

Robin Hood loved the little people well, and naturally his advent brought sparkle and romance to May Day doings. A hint of Saint Valentine's spirit and a bit of Mardi Gras mummery came in with him. It became a day for lovers, although old jingles warned against marrying in May. Sometimes Maid Marian figured as the May Queen.

There is an old couplet that runs —

The Queen of May is here today  
And gives us all a holiday.

A lilting May song of more recent date is filled with the sentiment of gallantry and romance that Robin Hood brought with him:

Come out, come out, my dearest dear,  
Come out and greet the sun.  
The birds awake on tree and brake,  
The merry May's begun.  
Come out and drink the diamond dew,  
Come out and tread the lea,  
The world is all awake and you  
Are all the world to me.

After the expedition to the woods to gather the May greens and blossoms, there were the Maypole and Morris dances on the village greens. Games and contests and all manner of clowning were added from time to time. A pasteboard hobby horse was one invention that long held favor. It was dragged about the streets and coins were tossed into a basket to express approval of the show.

Not only in rural districts, however, was May



Day observed. London had its own diversions, and here the day was given over to pure mumming. It was the gala occasion of the year for the milkmaids and the chimney sweeps. The milkmaids, dressed in their finest, had an elaborate procession, leading a gaily decorated cow. Later they would call upon their patrons to receive treats and gifts of money.

The sweeps celebrated in grand style. They had a large parade, dressed in all manner of grotesque costumes. Stock characters appeared year after year and were much beloved by the populace. Jack-in-the-Green was chief among these. Jack wore a tall superstructure of light cedar wood completely covered with boughs and flowers. Only his legs showed below, as he went dancing and whirling through the streets to the delight of the London crowds. Dusty Bob and Black Sal were his faithful companions year after year, for Sweeps Day was observed over a long, highly colored period.

Out of all these traditions only two have survived to any degree—the May basket and the Maypole. The May basket is direct offspring of those old English Maying excursions and the Maypole is still occasionally seen in city parks. There are several parts of our country, too, where the arbutus is called the May flower and where a favorite lark is searching for it in wood and field.

Those who are fond of making mystic deductions and reading omens into circumstances which are, to most of us, casual or accidental, might make something of the fact that our own Pilgrim Fathers made their fateful journey in the Mayflower—although they would have been the very last ones to wish to bring to their new world any reminders of those gay and worldly May Days of old England.

### May Parties for Everybody

Here are some suggestions for May parties that are in the authentic spirit of the olden times, and yet appropriate and possible today.

A May Day breakfast would be pleasant and different for those who live in the country or the suburbs. It would be grand fun for the teen ages,

"On the calends or first of May, commonly called May-day, the juvenile part of both sexes were wont to rise a little after midnight and walk to some neighboring wood, accompanied with music and blowing of horns, where they break down branches from the trees and adorn them with nosegays and crowns of flowers; when this is done they return with the booty homewards about the rising of the sun, and make their doors and windows to triumph with their flowery spoils; and the after part of the day is chiefly spent in dancing around a tall poll, which is called a May-poll; and being placed in a convenient part of a village, stands there, as it were, consecrated to the Goddess of Flowers, without the least violation being offered it in the whole circle of the year."—*Bourne*.

who could play tennis or croquet afterwards. For a church society or a recreation group it would be a way of getting an early start and adding a little lustre to good words.

First, walk to the woods, or drive, if it is too far, gather greens and flowers and then come back for a breakfast in the garden, the parish house, or the community center. May Day falls on Friday this year, so it would not be stretching it too far to

have your breakfast on Saturday morning, when most people are free. If your friends and neighbors turn a deaf ear because of the early rising, you can convert your party into a picnic with slight variations to suit your own circumstances.

An appropriate indoors party would be a county fair. Have your assembly room decorated to resemble a village green. The booths could be pushcarts where the farmers have brought their wares on market day. The entertainment features should not be too formal, for this would violate the spirit of the day. Square dances and old-fashioned costumes would be in order. For music, begin, at least, with old English airs. The ladies of the committee could be dressed like milkmaids, and the men who assist, like chimney sweeps. Select a master of ceremonies who is clever at patter and have him recall the old London May Day. The costumes and setting would be very easy and inexpensive, and this would make an excellent affair for raising money, or just for a general get-together.

There are suitable games that can be played indoors or out that you will want to put down on your program: quoits, an archery contest, croquet, badminton, bowling on the green are all important, and you must have rustic music, Morris dancing, and such rural contests as cattle calling, piping, and weight lifting.

For small children and those in their early teens, and for schools and community centers, have an old-fashioned May party out of doors, if possible. But outdoors or in, by all means make Robin Hood and his well-loved henchmen the leading lights of your day. With bright chintz, which is very cheap,

(Continued on page 44)



# A Timely Warning to Wartime America

By WILLIAM H. STONEMAN

**T**HE UNITED STATES, in the estimation of British experts, can prevent the increase of juvenile delinquency in wartime if it can profit by several grim lessons learned by wartime England.

For Great Britain's juvenile crime has increased fifty percent and even the reform schools have overflowed.

Some of the increase may be directly ascribed to the results of enemy action—children have been evacuated from their homes to unfamiliar surroundings; families have been broken up by the destruction of homes and the substitution of the unhealthful life of the public shelter; opportunities for and temptations toward theft have been increased by the blackout.

These causes probably will not arise in any great degree in the United States, but according to British social workers there are many other factors in the rise of juvenile delinquency:

1. Lack of parental control, due to the preoccupation of parents with other than family concerns.
2. Preoccupation of police with wartime duties.
3. Abnormally high wages paid to young workers.
4. Disruption of schools, clubs and other established centers.
5. General wartime abandon.

## Some Don'ts

Britain, in the confusion of war, has made mistakes which the United States still has the opportunity to avoid, and British experience dictates the following don'ts to Americans:

### Avoid Family Breakup

1. Don't close schools anywhere if you

**Juvenile delinquency has increased fifty percent in Britain. England gives the United States some advice based on her own grim experience**

Increase activities of all settlements and playgrounds. A good playground supervisor can do more for his country by sticking to his job than by trying to learn to fire a rifle.

3. Avoid the breakup of families by conscripting fathers for military service, or mothers for industry. If it is necessary to conscript them or to allow them to enlist, be sure that every child has some responsible relative or friend to care for him.

4. Don't throw an army of youngsters into industry any old way; limit the amount of cash paid to young people employed in industry.

## A Sad Mistake

Much of Britain's rise in juvenile delinquency and crime has been due to the disruption of school life and resulting "officially sanctioned truancy." Even where schools have continued to operate in safe areas, systems have been disorganized by calling up capable teachers for active service.

It is natural for the more red-blooded type of teacher to try to enlist, and in this country he was al-

lowed to do so. It was a sad mistake and one for which England will pay for a generation.

British youth depends to a large extent on voluntary clubs where youngsters who work can find wholesome recreation

(Continued on page 52)

"Don't close any clubs or other recreation centers," is England's advice to us.





# Barnstorming in the Rockies

By LILLIAN VON QUALEN

## Perry-Mansfield pioneers with dance and drama in Colorado

JUST AS DAWN spread across the crag-studded skyline of the high country, Barney swung the station wagon up over Rabbit Ears Pass. On the seat beside him Jane rubbed her eyes and breathed deeply of the crisp sweet air. Far below they saw the silver ribbon of the Yampa winding through patterned fields of wheat and alfalfa and miniature Herefords grazing along its banks.

"Joe and the scenery have caught up to us," Pete reported. "Wake up," he went on to admonish the others in the rear, snuggled down between blankets and costumes. "Steamboat and breakfast are just around the bend."

"Now that our one-night stands are over for the season, what would you all like to do next?" queried Jane brightly.

The back seat stirred. Then came the firm though sleepy reply, "Go on a tour barnstorming."

Every cast and crew of the Perry-Mansfield Theater Workshop lucky enough to have played a summer circuit of barns, schoolhouses and theaters in Colorado and Wyoming hankers to go right back and do it all over again. Begun only four years ago, the annual barnstorming tour by students

of this well-known summer theater school near Steamboat Springs, Colorado, (a division of the Perry-Mansfield Camps), has become the high point of each subsequent season, and the appearance of its talented troupe of actors and dancers is looked forward to eagerly by the gold miners of Hahn's Peak, ranchers of the cattle country, and University groups at Laramie. It all began one August night back in '39. With only a half hour till curtain time, a Perry-Mansfield caravan was creeping along through a wilderness of sage and twisted piñons

somewhere in northwestern Colorado.

It was getting colder as they climbed, and still there was no sign of habitation in all that inky expanse.

"If we don't round up that schoolhouse pretty soon there won't be any opening night," Joe predicted gloomily. "Can't you see those *Pilot* headlines, 'What So Proudly We Hail?' Postponed—Performers Unable to Locate Audience."

"I see some lights!" interrupted Joyce. "Who says the play won't go on?"

Soon the last of the barnstormers' cars was parked among the jalopies and saddle ponies in the Elkhead yard. Costumes, props



Colonists in "What So Proudly We Hail?"

and backdrop were hastily unloaded and carried into a large barren-looking schoolroom where an audience of some two hundred — cowboys and ranchmen with their wives and children, for the most part (many of whom had come a hundred miles to see their first "show") — had already gathered.

With western friendliness they helped "set the stage"—moved school desks out of the way, arranged oil lamps for footlights, and shoved a loyal old piano into position. The cast, meanwhile, undaunted by the absence of dressing rooms, slipped into their 18th century costumes behind blankets stretched across the back-stage corners and hurried out for the prologue.

As the story of "the first 150 years of American colonists' hopes and fears" was unfolded, the on-lookers were polite, but it was evident that the background and experience of the majority were not of a nature to enable them to appreciate historical satire. Some of the older men, who had served in the first World War, seemed to understand and enjoy the historic picture, and one massive rancher, after it was over, slapped his thigh with his ten-gallon hat and exclaimed, "If we'd a-knowned this was what you was goin' to put on we'd a-had the whole American Legion up here."

If the reaction to the satire was disappointing, the appreciation of the dances and pantomime more than made up for it, and when Harriette Anne and two of the boys whirled into Charles Weidman's *Cowboy Dance* they "whooped and hollered" for more. In the lusty square dancing that wound up the evening the cast had to "step lively" to keep up with their partners from the audience and were the first to admit they'd had enough of "hold your holts and swing like thunder."

Long after midnight the actors called out their last good-byes and started homeward through the sage. Hours later, weary but relieved to have hurdled their "opening night," they turned up by Butcher Knife Creek on the last lap to camp.

The following week the barnstormers went on the road in earnest, this time heading up the highway that follows the old Ute trail between Steamboat and the head of the Muddy. After time out for lunch along Roaring Fork, they crossed the Wyoming line and sped on toward Laramie where they finally tracked down the University theater, a handsome new structure of overwhelming proportions.

One look at the vast stage and Ginny inquired weakly, "Are you sure this is the place, Kingo?"

It looks more like Mr. Rockefeller's Music Hall to me." Further investigation provided other eye-openers. Drusa discovered a perfectly-tuned grand piano in the wings and Jane reported breathlessly, "Wait till you see the dressing rooms! Shades of Elkhead!"

The rehearsal clicked off like magic while the crew, under the tutelage of an obliging electrician, learned the mysteries of pulleys, cables and a giant switchboard. After dinner in the pretentious Commons, all hurried back to plunge into the frenzy of make-up time. The performance that followed was received with understanding and appreciation by a capacity audience of Summer Session professors and students, and on the long drive home, between snatches of the "Cowboy Lullaby" and other favorites, the tired troupers talked over with relish the events of an exciting day.

Their next appearance, the following night, was at Hayden, a mere forty miles from home. Center of a prosperous cattle, horse and sheep country, Hayden nestles in a rich valley with fertile mesas stretching for miles on either side, and is the hub of the region's business, social and educational activities. On the stage of its fine modern high school, the visiting players performed with pace and sureness for an intelligent, enthusiastic audience. After congratulations and packing up they drove back to Steamboat in high spirits for midnight hot cakes and coffee at the Everready.

The following afternoon the Perry-Mansfield caravan crossed the beautiful Elk River valley and climbed to the mining settlement of Hahn's Peak, famous in the old days for the fortunes washed from the golden sands of the looming peak beyond. A mile or so further on they bounced over a turn-off and finally drew up before a log cabin in a pine clearing where all seven members of the Wheeler family, their hosts, were preparing a welcome. Campfires crackled under the Dutch ovens, supper was almost ready, and its climax, Wheeler-made ice cream packed in freezers, stood on the cabin porch.

The Wheelers are remarkable, even in this region. In the fall of 1921 James and Rose Wheeler, with three tiny children, a shepherd dog and \$3.50 arrived from Sterling, Colorado, to take over their first homestead on this very site. They built the cabin in front of which the Perry-Mansfielders now stood—mud-chinked, with a dirt roof and pine floor and heated by an old wood stove packed in on mules over the Laramie trail. That first winter the snow averaged six feet on the level



**At Hahn's Peak the workshop group joins the Hill Billy Orchestra and takes part in cowboy dances with ranchers and miners**

and their income consisted of twenty dollars eked out by what James earned packing dynamite, cutting and hand-sledding wood at a dollar a day for the Blue Jay Gold Mine, and ten dollars his wife made by tatting. They lived on sourdough pancakes, bread and gravy and wild game, but with the zest and boundless energy she still retains, Rose found time to make up songs, learn to ski and play poker.

Now, grown to a large and happy family, the Wheelers have acquired 168 acres in addition to their original homestead, the house in which they now live, a former ranger's station, and a goodly number of cattle, horses, sheep and chickens. The Wheeler orchestra, renowned throughout the countryside is composed solely of members of the family, and the Pine Dale Dance Hall, where the Perry-Mansfielders were to perform, was owned and built by James with the help of his two older sons.

After supper and a bit of "Home on the Range" and "Round-up Time in Texas," to the twang of

Rex Wheeler's guitar, the players started up the hill to the dance hall to dress for

their performance. Fortunately no scenery had been brought along, and one glance around the log dance hall, lamp-lit, with a wood stove in one corner and benches lining the walls was enough to settle the costume question. Not even blanket dressing rooms were possible here but Barney observed, "Shakespeare's been done in modern dress, too."

So, with the aid of such headgear and minor props as could be snatched from the railing behind them in the course of the action, and staunchly backed up by Drusa at an ancient upright, the barnstormers put on their most unusual performance. The audience reacted much as did that at Elkhead; if anything these ranchers and their families, miners, cowboys and "sawmill savages" were even more perplexed. The only ones who seemed to grasp whatever style and art quality the performance had were the Wheelers and some Mexican sheepherders.



But soon everyone was engulfed in the real business of the evening, the liveliest square dancing in Routt County, to a rousing Wheeler accompaniment and with rancher Crawford shouting the calls. Until long past midnight the cowboy and the lady, the gold prospector and concert dancer, joined in "do-si-do" with hearty abandon.

Two nights later the tour reached its culmination at Andy Anderson's famous *A Bar A Ranch*, near Encampment in the wildly beautiful section of Wyoming between the Medicine Bow and Sierra Madre Ranges. One of three Anderson ranches totalling 20,000 acres, over which run 2,000 head of cattle, *A Bar A* is a de luxe establishment, and the barnstormers prepared with some fear to face an audience of sophisticates.

The huge hay barn, the theater for the night, presented technical problems never before encountered, but the well-seasoned crew took them in their stride and set up lights, props and flats in record time. The actors discovered that their costume changes this time were to take place in a harness room and oat bin, but by now adaptability was their outstanding virtue!

It was after eight when the dudes drifted in to fill up the wooden benches in the "orchestra" and to perch on the new-mown hay piled up for a "mezzanine." Through cracks in the floor came the pleasant smells and sounds of horses and cows munching their feed in clean stalls. Then the opening lines of the prologue. . . . At first the response was a bit ribald but gradually it changed to quiet and interested attention and by the third act, much to the players' surprise, this sophisticated audience turned out to be the most enthusiastic of all.

Following some after-theater socializing in the Round-up Hall and a good night's sleep in luxurious guest cottages, the Perry-Mansfielders headed for camp, this time reluctantly, for their barnstorming days were now over.

In the summer of 1940 a second group tried out the fun of barnstorming, this time with an original revue called ". . . And a Time to Dance," featuring dances which mirrored the periods of the 70's, the 90's, the first World War, Boom, Depression and the beginning of World War II. Included in this company were a former technical director of the Pasadena Playhouse, Humphrey-Weidman, soloist and premiere danseuse of the Chicago and San Francisco opera companies, the musical director of the Vassar Dance Club, a pianist who was a member of the staff of NBC, a cousin of the Rt. Hon. Anthony Eden, and a dancer widely

known for her work with teachers' groups of the Church of the Latter Day Saints. A performance at the magnificent Fine Arts Center in Colorado Springs (a modern masterpiece completed in 1936 at the cost of \$600,000) was an exciting addition to the 1939 itinerary. Last summer the barnstorming selection was Eugene O'Neill's "Marco Millions," a handsome production in which dance, drama, music and art were closely correlated.

As a result of all these experiences the director of the Perry-Mansfield Theater Workshop has concluded that in order to be receptive to ideas through any art medium most people must be exposed to it from childhood. There are exceptions of course, the musical Wheelers and the Mexican shepherders, for instance. But as a rule there seems to be a significant relationship between cultural background and understanding, and when seeking to entertain those lacking in the former Miss Perry feels it is wise to avoid anything in a primarily serious mood but to offer instead something in decorative and humorous form with emphasis on feats of skill.

Perry-Mansfield plans to include a ballet, a dance-drama and short play for the coming barnstorming season, offering this variety in theme and approach so that whatever is suitable for each type of audience will be offered to it. With the nation at war and tire-saving a patriotic duty, the itinerary will omit the more distant "stands" and will include instead more appearances in the near-by back country with greater opportunities for a closer relationship between cast and audience, the farming and ranching families of the Western Slope. The cast might even spend the day on some of the ranches helping with the haying, rounding up the cattle and feeding the stock and, in the evening, putting on their performance and joining in the square dancing afterwards with their friends of the countryside.

Another innovation will be the formation of a laboratory workshop as an experimental unit of the stage production department, to be directed by graduate students of the Theater Workshop who are doing outstanding work in that field at Vassar and Bennington. This group will be responsible for all sets and equipment used on tour, and for the direction of several student performances.

And so, in spite of new uncertainties and problems, Perry-Mansfield troupers are looking forward once again to the surprises and joys of another barnstorming tour in the Rockies.



# Nature Recreation in Essex County's Parks

IT WOULD NOT be accurate to say that nature recreation as conducted in the Essex County, New Jersey, parks is a new activity or that it is a part of the summer playground program only. We may thank the National Recreation Association for the initial stimulus to do something in this field because it was Dr. William G. Vinal's part in the institute conducted in Newark in 1936 which literally opened our eyes to the possibilities existing not only in the larger parks and reservations, but even in the smaller city parks.

Dr. Vinal, who was then nature specialist on the staff of the National Recreation Association, introduced to the members of the institute William E. Dillon, a nationally known naturalist, who had been director of the Downtown Boys' Club of Newark for the past ten years. Among other things Mr. Dillon told the members of the institute that he had taken a group of Scouts down the east side of Broad Street, Newark, and back on the west side, and in this two mile walk he had been able to point out sixty-two nature objects, including an owl. If this were possible on one of the busiest thoroughfares of the country, certainly there should be many things of interest in a ten acre city park, to say nothing of what might be found in the parks of from one hundred to four hundred acres and in reservations.

A very modest beginning was made in 1937, but we were off to a good

Professor Kovald, in his ranger's uniform, conducts a group of children on a hike in South Mountain Reservation. This is a feature of a one-day picnic which each of the playgrounds enjoys during August.

By L. C. WILSEY  
Supervisor of Recreation  
Essex County Park Commission

start in 1938 when Mr. Dillon conducted one session on each of the two days of our own institute for playground workers which preceded the beginning of the playground season. When Mr. Dillon took part in the institute he wore the regalia of a chief of the Penobscot Indians, having been given this rank by the tribe in 1900. The name they conferred on him was "Chief Opie Dilldock," meaning the nature story man. The council ring in which Mr. Dillon conducted his sessions is one of a number established as a result of Dr. Vinal's inspiration and is located in Grover Cleveland Park near Caldwell, a park pronounced a "naturalist's paradise" by both Dr. Vinal and Mr. Dillon.

The start was good in a number of ways. One

*(Continued on page 52)*



# There Is a Time for Play

By THURMAN B. RICE, M.D.

**T**HE PAPERS tell us that England is still going ahead in as nearly a normal way as possible. The golf courses were used last summer and will be used again this coming summer. The moving picture houses—pardon me, the cinemas—are said to be crowded and setting new attendance records. My friend sneered when he heard that such was the case and opined that Britain was not so hard hit if she could still go to the movies. He seems to think that they should be working every minute of the day and that they should be carrying a face a foot long. Not so! Not so at all. We—as well as Britain—are most fortunate in having an ally who has sense enough to keep himself emotionally fit by easing off the tension at every opportunity that affords itself.

Once upon a time I was sitting with a musical friend watching an artist perform on the violin. During the intervals of rest he seemed to be fidgeting with his bow, and I commented on the fact that he seemed nervous. "No," said my better-informed friend, "he is resting his bow by easing off the tension, so that the bow will keep its resiliency for the time when he really needs it."

It is just as important that we know how to let loose of a task as it is that we know how to take it up. One can accomplish astonishing results if he can work awhile, then rest awhile and keep up that procedure indefinitely. One needs to unbend and take his ease occasionally and at such a time anything that takes his mind entirely off the work in hand is particularly useful in maintaining efficiency. There are those persons who seem to think that they are lying down on the job if they lay down the job for an instant. There are persons who go to bed at night apparently holding on to the bedpost for fear it will get away. Obviously such is not the best way to get one's rest.

It is said that the war will be a long one, and even a war of two years' duration seems like a long one or will seem

This statement by Dr. Rice, who is Editor of the *Monthly Bulletin* published by the Indiana State Board of Health, appeared in the January 1942 issue of the *Bulletin*.

like it before it is done. It behooves us then to get out of this period of initial excitement and confusion as quickly as we can and get down to the real work of the day—not forgetting the need of the night, too, for rest, relaxation and recreation. It is only so that we shall be able to hold out and be present at the victory—not the armistice—celebration.

We are told that the shortage of rubber is going to be such that there will be no more golf or tennis balls made. Now it may well be that in our anxiety to cooperate a mistake is being made there. It doesn't take much rubber to make a tennis ball, but a couple of tennis balls can keep four kids busy and out of mischief for many an afternoon. At the same time it is developing strength, speed and agility which will stand in good stead when these young people are needed as soldiers. One rubber tire would make a great many golf balls, and it might well be that the tired executive would greatly profit—even from the standpoint of waging an effective war—by having a spot of golf to look forward to at the end of a long day at the desk. In making these statements we certainly have no wish to embarrass those who are responsible for the rationing of rubber (God knows their job is an important and a difficult one), but only to call attention to an important matter as one being worthy of thought.

The early American made a serious mistake when he supposed that any sort of play was wasteful and foolish, or even sinful. One was expected to work hard for six days and then to work even harder on Sunday trying his best not

to do anything at all. In recent years we have seen the fallacy of this plan and we must not in the present emergency entirely give up what we have learned. Our very existence depends upon our ability to absorb the hurts and shocks which the next few months and years are sure to bring. We are in the

"The special service the arts can render is to provide not escape from, but refreshment for renewed conflict, that quietness of spirit, that inward poise and command of life which everyone needs but which is increasingly difficult of attainment in the hurried tempo of our living. That quietness great literature does bring, perhaps only for a brief moment, but in that moment richly and effectively."—George Reynolds in *Education*.

(Continued on page 53)

# Emergency Crafts

By A. F. MAINLAND

CRAFT TEACHERS are now having an excellent opportunity to show their resourcefulness in adapting their techniques and skills to the use of new materials. The government has placed very necessary restrictions on tools, equipment, and many of the supplies ordinarily used in conducting craft programs with the result that many of the standard craft projects are no longer available. Copper, rubber, paper, pottery glazes, photographic supplies, and many other items are rapidly disappearing from the market.

The craft teacher who is alert and resourceful in cooperating in the national emergency is busy designing new craft projects that are practical and can be made from salvaged materials. He is inventing new equipment, making homemade tools, and finding new uses for old ones. The weaving teacher is now weaving grass mats for air raid shelters; the shop teacher is designing "scram" boxes of scrap wood; the metal teacher is making first aid kits from tin cans.

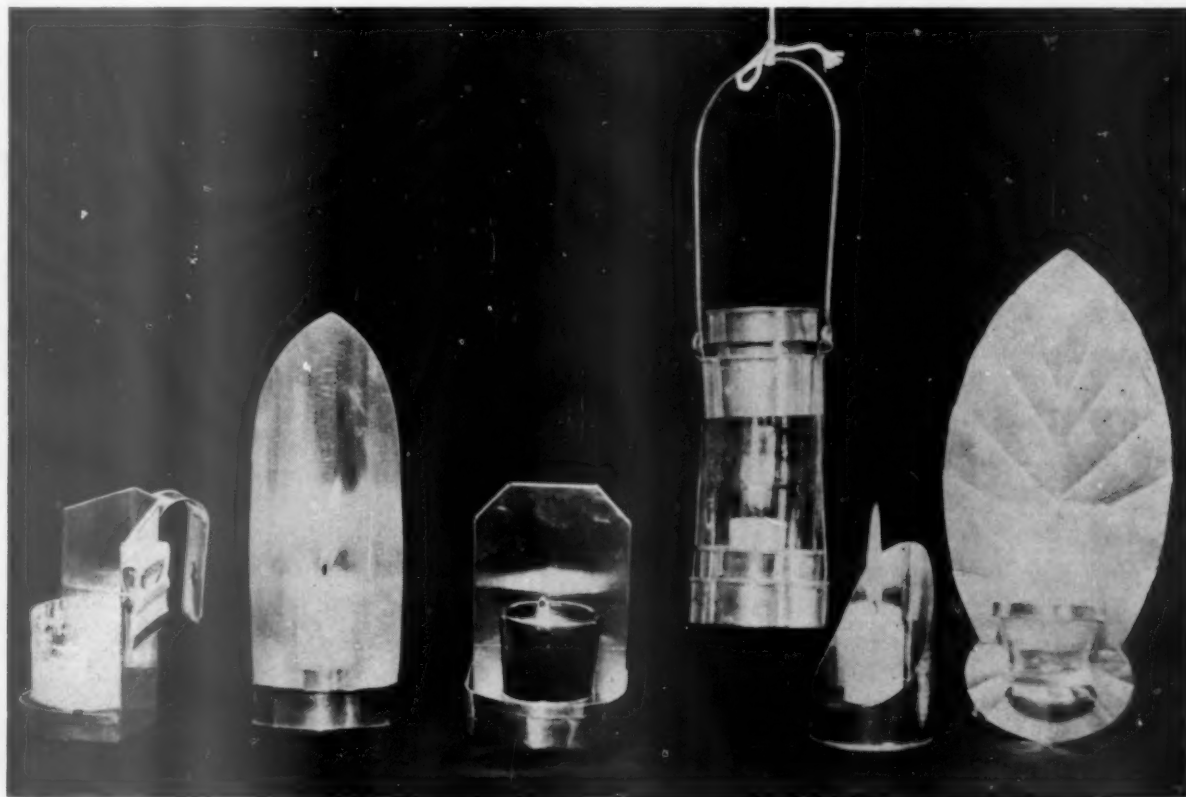
The designing and construction of blackout and

emergency lights from tin cans is a craft which has been recently added to the metal program at the WPA Recreation Training School in New York City. The wall sconce is made of flat tin. A small tumbler holds a sanctuary candle. Two of the wall and table models have a strap on the back to hold a book of matches. (In the interest of safety the matches should be taken out when the candle is lighted.) The lantern chimney is made of a peanut butter jar with the bottom cut out.

The tools required for this type of tin craft are very simple. The basic tools are a soldering iron, flux and solder, heavy shears, and a key type can opener. The supplementary tools include a light hammer, a straight edge to bend the tin over, pliers, and a file. The polishing is done with fine steel wool (3/0) or a mild scouring powder.

Some of the lamps use the tin cans in their original form. Others, such as the wall sconce, are made of flat tin. This means that the top and bottom were cut out of the can with tin shears,

(Continued on page 50)







# An Outdoor Carnival on the Playground

By

GENEVIEVE L. BRAUN

**A**N OUTDOOR CARNIVAL on every playground, free to every participator—this was the biggest single development made in Racine's summer playground program in 1941.

In seeking a new activity to take the place of one that had declined in popularity, the playground staff of the Racine Department of Recreation decided upon an outdoor carnival that would make every visitor a participant. Not often is it that an event is more successful than is anticipated. Attendance was most gratifying, for the children publicized well the activities which they themselves were sold on and were keen to pass along to their parents. The biggest mistake made in planning the carnival for the first time was in not having prepared for the large numbers of people who came to participate. In another year, preparations will be made on a larger scale.

Publicity for the carnival started approximately two weeks beforehand in the playground weekly newspaper. During the next week, play leaders discussed ideas with the children. Boys and girls signed up for booths, and anyone with an original idea was permitted to have charge of that activity. Posters advertising the carnival appeared on playground bulletin boards and in the neighborhood stores. City newspaper articles gave additional publicity.

Children were left to their own resources in the construction of booths. Many of them were made from orange crates decorated with crepe paper. These booths were managed entirely by the children, with advice given by the play leaders when necessary. Barkers, ticket takers, and crepe paper streamers on swings, slides, and other playground

Miss Braun, a member of the staff of the Department of Physical Education for Women of the University of Minnesota, has served during the summer as playground supervisor in the Department of Recreation, Racine, Wisconsin

apparatus provided a genuine carnival atmosphere.

Prizes made by the children during their regular handcraft hours on the playground were distributed to all winners. Girls eagerly contributed small articles such as crepe paper flowers, dolls, fans, beads, bracelets, and hats, while boys made wooden pins, animals, and other small articles.

Admission tickets were mimeographed by the Recreation Department, one ticket for each activity being distributed without cost to every person. Ticket booths were conspicuously placed at the most logical point of entrance to the playground.

All activities were run simultaneously. People could then wander from one to another according to their interests. To bring the whole show to a climax, many playgrounds held either a short amateur show or a freak show just before dark. Where facilities permitted, others ended their carnival with singing or marshmallow roasts around a large bonfire. The children prove to be very original in their suggestions and in the arrangement of activities. This was encouraged by choosing appropriate leaders and helpers and by allowing the children to experiment with promising ideas.



Everyone likes to fish for a prize. Thus the line of children awaiting their turns at the Fish Pond was extremely long. Two fish ponds would make for more efficient organization. The pond was a space behind a barrier large enough to hide the child who attached a prize to the fish hook each time it appeared. For this activity there must be a large number of prizes. Many children contributed old toys and jewelry and other small articles that were no longer wanted at home.

The fortune telling booth was also distinguished with a long waiting line. Wherever possible, a tent was either brought from home or constructed from long sticks and blankets. Tom-tom players provided atmosphere outside the door while the fortune teller, appropriately veiled, sat in the doorway telling short fortunes to everyone. Imaginative children prepared the fortunes ahead of time so they could be read with the aid of a flashlight.

Throwing darts at inflated balloons tempted adults as well as youngsters at the "Balloon Bust." For his ticket, each person was given two or three trials from a fair distance. Breaking a balloon was a reward in itself. Placement of this activity must be carefully chosen for safety. Darts should be thrown at a blank wall.

A "Kissing Booth," run by attractive girls, aroused the curiosity of many participants who received a candy kiss after entering the enclosure. Bingo games brought from home by the children were especially popular with the parents. Hand-craft prizes were distributed to all winners.

"Spill the Milk" was arranged by using three tenpins and a softball. Other playground games such as washers, bean bags, and ring-o-leff were transformed into carnival games of skill by modifying the rules so that the participant might receive a prize after a fair number of trials.

Most popular in the Freak Show, which proved an adequate climax to the carnival, were the Siamese twins, a boy sitting on nails, a bearded lady, a tattooed man, a weight lifter, a muscle man, a fat lady, a snake charmer, a mummy, a

The Recreation Department of Racine, Wisconsin, last summer proved that outdoor carnivals, planned to last from six o'clock until dark, will fit readily into any week of the summer playground program and are guaranteed to provide a full and exciting evening for all members of the family.

midget, a wild man, and children who could do magic tricks. Stages made from playground tables enabled everyone to see the performers.

Many ideas could be added to a carnival such as this. Small admission charges could be made for money-earning purposes. It may be used as a mid-season or an end-of-the-season climax to the summer playground season. Previous thought and organization by the play leaders is very essential, but when well planned, this activity as a whole should be a big success for anyone who tries it.

Interest in such carnivals as Miss Braun describes in her article is increasing everywhere. Individuals or groups interested in putting on an event of this kind in connection with their summer recreation programs will find additional information in an article entitled "A Community Playground Carnival," by David R. Kibby, which appeared in the May 1941 issue of RECREATION. Available from the National Recreation Association at 15 cents is "A Playground Fair," a pageant held together by a carnival theme that is adaptable to all kinds of situations.



# Recreation at Emergency Trailer Camps

**N**OWHERE in the United State has the influx of defense workers and the establishment of military bases created such acute civic assimilation problems as at San Diego, California. The rapidly increasing surplus population not only had to be sheltered within reach of their place of employment and of stores, but healthful environment and recreation had to be provided to make the new arrivals feel at home.

City Recreation Department Superintendent, W. A. "Bud" Kearns and District Supervisor H. C. Syckel of the WPA Recreation Project for San Diego personally studied conditions at the new trailer camps. They found the people there to be depressed, fretful, homesick, and as a whole dissatisfied with their lot. The children reflected their parents' unhappy state of mind by being noisy, quarrelsome and wild. When people from thirty different states are forced to live in a closely constricted area, the very difference of habits, speech, and behavior tends to keep them from finding common interest and friendly understanding without outside assistance from a leader.

**A recreation center for each of the emergency trailer camps is the objective of the Recreation Department of San Diego**

Recreation permits these new neighbors to meet on common ground in a —"Hi, Neighbor" — spirit, and to find pleasure in cultivating a new friendship. It shows them how to enjoy leisure

hours and helps to relieve worry over the safety of children near the waterfront. Once the ice was broken by the leaders it was easy to find out which recreation activity had the greatest appeal. They did this by exhibiting arts and crafts products and hobbies from other areas and by inquiries which games or plays are known or would be of interest.

To quote at random replies to questions about the popularity of recreation activities among the campers:

"I don't think of bombers and such things when I'm with the club here."

"I didn't expect to find so many friends away from home. Making beautiful things of your own is grand."

"Now I can wash in peace at the community laundry without worrying every minute if one of the kids has fallen in the bay."

**Community singing is a well-liked activity in the recreation program for trailer camps**





Photo by Bryant

## A Mexican Fiesta

By

WILLIE MADGE BRYANT  
Pasadena Settlement Association  
Pasadena, California

There are suggestions here for recreation departments and other groups using the "Good Neighbor" theme in their recreation programs

IT IS TWO O'CLOCK of a Saturday afternoon in May, at the Pasadena Mexican Settlement House, Pasadena, California. A vendor, dressed in the white calzones (pants), pink shirt, and big straw hat of the Mexican peon, moves about the grounds. "Quien quiere tacos? Quien quiere tacos?" Above the seller stretch the gay octagonal umbrellas, the awnings of yellow and blue and magenta. On all sides are flowers: trays of flowers, tubs of flowers, baskets of flowers.

Girls in China poblana costume move in and out, laughing, squealing, as some admirer breaks a cascarone over their heads and the confetti spills out to make bright jewels in their blue-black hair. These are club girls, selling, from the painted trays suspended from ribbons around their necks, cigarettes, cascarones, candy, gilded fortune nuts. Money jingles merrily into their little cloth change sacks.

To the north of the grounds the walls of the garage and craft shops are kalsomined a tropical pink for the occasion. Against them a banana tree weaves its exotic pattern. To the west crouches the low brown Settlement House, the brick patio overhung by sweet-smelling acacia. To the south the great gas tanks of the city loom, and to the

east are the tracks. The trains roll by at intervals like the chorus of a song, and the curious faces of the passengers press against the window panes.

At one side, over low charcoal stoves, squat the *taco* makers, their brown ragged children playing tag in and out among the near-by booths. The *tor-tillas* (ready-made because so many *tacos* will be made and sold so quickly) are stacked in dozens on the tables behind the workers, the onions and cheese and chopped lettuce ready to be added to the hamburger they are frying for filling. Impatient hands, white and brown, stretch down, holding out money and receiving the dripping and tasty *tacos*.

Back by the fence are the *enchillada* women, and from near-by comes the gratifying, spine-chilling sound of the ice blocks being scraped by the little metal box to get shaved ice for the crunchy *raspadas*.

The ground lights are turned on as the quick California night falls, and the scene is flooded with even greater contrasts.

From a platform high in the center of the fiesta grounds float the strains of a *typica* orchestra (two guitars and a fiddle), and there is a hurrying to see the Jarabe and Sandunga dancers present their



program of old and authentic folk dances. These will reflect the many conquests of Mexico. There will be Aztec rituals, Chilean sailor dances, slow tropical rhythms from Oaxaca and Tehuantepec, fast *huapangos*, and *jarabes* from every state.

The romance-loving audience joins in the song parts with lusty voices, (the high soprano that queer half-nasal timbre), and encores that Jarabe Chihuahuense, its steps designed to show the beauty of the exquisitely-woven Mexican serapes. They roar with laughter at the Jarabe Tlascalteca, depicting chickens scratching in the barnyards, the cooking and beating of *atole*. The long and intricate Jarabe Michoacano is followed by the fast, beloved Jarabe Tapatio, now named the National Mexican Dance. Last of all comes the Tejuana Sandunga. Now the costumes of the dancers have changed from white blouses with full red and white

homespun skirts to exquisitely embroidered satins of magenta, purple, cream, turquoise, rose. The beautiful long hair of the girls is topped by incredible lace and net headdresses fashioned like a baby's christening dress, and the bottoms of the full skirts are banded with pleated ruffles a full twelve inches wide.

Screams of delight shatter the last bars of the music as a prosperous looking Nordic business man is hustled off to "jail" by ragged young Mexican boys, there to be imprisoned in plain sight of the crowd until he pays a fine for release. To make his sentence lighter to bear, two bewitching señoritas are rushed into jail with him, and the crowd pushes close and roars its delight as they twit the prisoner and his charming companions.

The business men who have come with him join in the uproar. The man pays his fine

**Children at the Pasadena Settlement House are convinced there's no fun to compare with breaking a pinata**



Photo by Star-News Photographer. Owned by Bryant



good naturedly, and comes out to play at the *loteria* tables or at the penny toss game run by the excited smaller boys.

We visit the near-by women's booths. Here the Senora Valadez sells thick, sweet *atole*, to be eaten with a spoon from heavy china cups. Her daughter Teresa offers you a *bunuelo*, and laughs as you bite into it and the powdered sugar sprinkles whitely down across your clothes. In the next booth Senoras Gallegos and Orozco have the women's bazaar, exquisite Mexican drawn work on towels, pillow cases, handkerchiefs, luncheon sets. Here is a handmade bedspread to be raffled off. It has been made by the seventy-one-year-old Senora Tellez, and the pattern is the ancient Aztec rose.

An artist has his easel set up and is sketching, making a dozen notes to be translated later into water color and oils. A news photographer takes a shot of two little boys selling *pinatas* from a long pole stretched between them. Somebody calls out that in a minute a donkey-shaped *pinata* will be broken on the other side of the grounds, and we hasten across to watch the eager faces of the children. When will the cane finally break the oya and the precious candy and nuts come spilling to the ground?

Across the way Don Pedro Alvarado, the craftsman, demonstrates on his wheel how primitive Mexican pottery is made. Around him are stacked vessels already made and fired, and we buy a casserole of the henna-brown ware, knowing how long it will hold the heat of the oven. We buy, too, a big brown jar. This we shall fill with drinking water, for the constant evaporation through the clay walls keeps water ice cold on the hottest days.

Next we go to Carmelo the tin worker, fashioning delicate swans of tin. He has a large display of his work—burros, mirrors, lamps, Christmas trees. Carmelo likes his work and is very jealous of it. He will not make a piece for you if you try to hurry him, or if you insist on your own way. He is an artist and will carry out his own ideas in his own time.

Then comes the six piece dance band to play for the dancing on the handball court. The players break into modern swing, and a jitterbug session is under way. Born of generations of music-loving, dance-loving people, these young Mexicans, some clad in native costume, some in American street clothes, nearly all American born, surge into the pulsating give-and-take of the modern American dance.

Around the cemented dance floor, the dark-faced mothers sit in a solemn square, many with *rebozos* over their heads, children in their laps, children at their knees, all intent on watching the dance. Back under the trees, or against the walls of the buildings, stand the fathers. Their talk is of politics and of olden times. These older men drink surreptitiously now and then from their bottles, knowing that drinking is not approved by the people in charge.

At twelve midnight the music stops and slowly the crowd disperses. The ground is inch deep in confetti, serpentine, papers, flowers. The orchestra puts away its instruments and the piano is moved back into the Settlement.

Club members work like beavers to get chairs stacked, booths cleared. Everything which might be stolen or carried away or destroyed is brought in, leaving only the work of cleaning and sweeping and tearing away frames for those who return on Monday morning.

The cashier sits under a light in the office, rolling pennies, nickels, and dimes into paper containers before he locks the money into the safe. Tired staff members help hunt the last lost article—a board member's spectacles.

Finally the lights are turned out and the Settlement is quiet once more. Another annual fiesta, with its weeks of preparation, its color, its charm, its hard work, has been added to the calendar of past achievements.

### Legend of Mexican Terms

**Taco**—Mexican sandwich made of tortilla fried in deep fat, doubled over and filled with lettuce, cheese, tomato sauce, onions, fried hamburger. Fillings can also be of chicken or avocado or beans.

**China poblana**—Commonest-known Mexican costume. Red, white, green, the skirt embroidered with sequins. Copied centuries ago from a jewel-embroidered dress of a Chinese princess kidnapped by pirates and brought to Mexico. The term means "village dress of a Chinese."

**Cascarone**—Hollow eggshells filled with confetti (often made of finely-cut crepe paper), and painted in gay colors. Often the eggs are painted like watermelons, flowers, faces, etc. Made to be broken over the heads of one's friends.

**Enchillada**—A *tortilla* is fried slightly, filled with chopped cheese, onions, black olives. It is rolled like a jelly roll and dipped into chili sauce. Often

(Continued on page 51)

# First Aid for Recreation Supplies

By L. A. ORSATTI  
Senior Recreation Director  
Department of Playground and Recreation  
Los Angeles, California

**O**BTAINING maximum service from recreation supplies has long been an objective of recreation administrators. Stretching the supply budget has heretofore been the chief motivating factor. Today this problem is more acute because in addition to the budget question, our national emergency has made it necessary to accept substitute materials, get along with fewer items, and in some cases do without a number of supplies, especially those containing or made of rubber.

We may ultimately have to rebuild our recreation activity program around those supplies that are available and place less emphasis upon those activities requiring recreation supply items difficult to obtain. This eventuality can be pushed farther into the future if intelligent care is given to the (1) Purchase, (2) Proper Use and Care, and finally (3) Repair of Recreation Supplies and Materials that are now available. Many hours of additional service can be obtained from recreation supplies if a little forethought is given to each of the above factors, all of which enter into the subject of "First Aid for Recreation Supplies."

## Buying Recreation Supplies

The old adage, "It is not how much you sell for, but how much you buy for that counts," is in a sense applicable to recreation supplies. Intelligent buying will at the outset assure one of a low unit cost, and the quality of the item will be such that it will stand severe use and permit of much repair. When that item is put in use it is being "sold," and the length of service and final satisfaction it gives will largely depend on the "buy." Purchasers of recreation supplies should know exactly what materials, grade of materials and workmanship make up each recreation supply item.

**Product to Meet Specifications.** This means there should be prepared a care-

ful set of detailed recreation supply specifications which establish the standard for the items purchased. If several hundreds or thousands

of dollars worth of supplies are to be bought, it is usually well to request competitive bids, giving each bidder a set of the specifications to which the items must conform. In addition, bidders should submit samples which may be used by the purchasing agency in any way it desires to assist it in making its choice.

Specifications such as those described are difficult to obtain; indeed, there appears to be a need for information of this kind that well might be made a basis for study by a research committee in this field. It may be necessary for a recreation department to develop its own, paying especial attention to those features such as stitching, material, color, etc., which experience indicates need to be carefully specified.

When making up specifications, the following are some points to be considered: size; weight; standard or official performance; materials composing the product; color; stitching (size and material of thread, type of stitch, number of stitches per inch); construction; finish (smooth, pebble grain, etc.); maximum and minimum dimensions or weights acceptable.

The following detailed specification for a playground ball will illustrate the manner in which such standards can be prepared. The reasons for requiring a lock-stitch, an out-seam, cork center, etc., will not be entered into here; suffice to say that observation, experience and investigation, taken together with the local conditions under which the article will be used, often determine some of the specification details.

"Twelve inch out-seam; seven ounce weight; two-piece horsehide, elkhide or cowhide leather cover; lock-stitched with eight cord linen waxed thread; cork center only acceptable; cork center to be

Mr. Orsatti points out that the ideas which he presents in this article are not all-inclusive, and he suggests that many readers of *Recreation* have no doubt developed their own "first aid" practices which he and other recreation workers will want to hear about. "Only by exchanging ideas and keeping each other posted upon varying techniques and methods," says Mr. Orsatti, "can we successfully cope with a problem which is daily becoming more acute." So tell us what you are doing to meet the situation and we will make the information available to all interested.

either solid one-piece or laminated not to exceed four pieces and measure not more than two and three-quarter inches diameter. Center to be wrapped not less than one-half inch in thickness, with heavy wool yarn, constructed and tightly wrapped so distance of yarn wrapping from center to surface of ball is uniform. Submit one whole and one-half section as samples."

**Samples and Their Testing.** In competitive bidding it is usual to have from three to eight or more bids with samples submitted by each bidder on one item alone, such as volleyballs. A careful inspection should then be made of each sample, and the one most nearly meeting the required specifications should be chosen for purchase.

Wherever possible, samples should be tested by subjecting them to conditions approximating those under which they will be used in the recreation program. If they are actually tried in the field, care should be taken that all samples of similar items are used under identical conditions. The Los Angeles Recreation Department avails itself of the testing facilities of the Municipal Bureau of Standards. Frequently samples are torn, stretched, punctured, broken, cut or otherwise treated to ascertain their quality.

Finally, the samples of products chosen for purchase ought to be retained until complete delivery has been made so the two can be compared. It sometimes occurs that when the supplies purchased are delivered they do not measure up to the standard indicated by the sample.

### Proper Use and Care of Supplies

Even the most expensive and best quality products will give mediocre service if misused or used under conditions for which they were not designed. After carefully buying recreation supplies, the investment becomes a profitable one only if the absolute maximum of service and satisfaction is obtained. This can be realized by observing a few general rules which apply to nearly all recreation supplies. Among them are:

*Issue equipment in a manner to insure its return.* Requiring a deposit of some article upon issuance of equipment is a device sometimes used but not

Regarding the conservation of equipment, particularly of rubber balls, R. W. Robertson, Superintendent of Recreation, Oakland, California, writes: "We are constantly reminding our recreation directors to take greater care of the equipment and to see that the children make use of it intelligently and appropriately for these times. We are stressing modifications of recreation programs to make use of other equipment or as little equipment as possible. We are asking greater cooperation from all our people and are getting it because of the emergency situation." Mr. Robertson adds: "We are all in the same boat, if that is any comfort, and I think that if we keep our heads we can keep the boat floating for the duration."

one to be encouraged. On small areas or where the patronage is quite regular and the director knows every one, no special problem is presented. On large recreation areas, heavily attended, loss of equipment by theft or carelessness may sometimes become quite a problem. A practicable method of meeting this situation is the device of indexing in one card file the names of

all patrons using equipment, and upon another card file every piece of recreation supply in use. When a patron checks out a piece of equipment, his card is taken from the name file and placed in the equipment file under the item checked out. Upon return of the equipment, the name card is replaced in the name index.

*Proper use of recreation equipment adds greatly to the total hours of service such equipment will give.* Balls, bases, bats, nets, game supplies and certain miscellaneous items are roughly classes or groups into which we may classify most recreation supplies for purposes of discussion in this article. Below are listed some suggestions which should be helpful in prolonging the life of such supplies.

### Balls

1. All inflated balls should be, at all times, kept at the proper inflation pressure. This pressure is indicated upon the surface of the ball by the manufacturer, and is not always the same for the same kind of ball.

2. Check all supplies at the closing up time so that nothing is left out overnight. Night moisture plays havoc with practically all recreation supplies.

3. Leather equipment wears much better if kept slightly oiled, so the leather is never dry. Passing an oiled rag (neatsfoot oil is excellent) over the inflated leather balls every day is quite satisfactory.

4. Croquet balls and mallets are not intended to be used as though they were hockey sticks and pucks.

5. Sport balls, basketballs, and volleyballs are designed for bouncing, and will stand little kicking.

### Bases

Fastening down all bases when in use prevents wear and cuts down the tendency to throw them around, as sometimes occurs.



### Bats

1. Bat breakage is usually quite high and much of it can be prevented by holding the bat properly so that the side of the bat which has the trademark imprinted will not come in contact with the ball.

2. Using a playground ball bat weighing from 28 to 31 ounces with a minimum handle diameter of  $1\frac{3}{16}$  to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches has worked out very satisfactorily for the older patrons.

### Nets

1. A good grade of basketball, volleyball, paddle tennis, badminton and tennis net is the most economical in the long run. Provision should be made so these nets can be sent to a central repair shop for reweaving when necessary.

2. Tennis nets with double centers, extra heavy web type binding along the top edge and  $\frac{1}{4}$ " diameter tension cable (instead of the ordinary  $\frac{3}{16}$ " cable) will give many months of added service.

### Game Supplies

1. Checkerboards made of inlaid linoleum squares are most satisfactory. If this is not available, three-ply wood with a heavily stenciled checker design and covered with Valspar varnish makes a fine board.

2. Crokinole disks, checker men, dominoes, friends, chessmen, jacks and jack balls are best kept and issued in sturdy individual containers or tin cans to prevent loss.

### Miscellaneous

1. Catchers' gloves should be kept well oiled.
2. Breakage of bamboo poles used for high jump and vaulting can be reduced by using a few turns of friction tape between joints.
3. Baseball catchers' masks are susceptible to being battered out of shape by the continued removal and throwing to the ground. It has been found that the most heavily constructed wire mask, or purchase of a sturdy bar type mask is best economy in the long run.

### Repair of Expendable Recreation Equipment

Repairing is an important part of recreation supply "first aid." To illustrate: Under normal playing conditions, on local recreation areas, the play-

ground ball in use begins to break down after approximately three weeks of play. By careful repairing, these balls are kept in play for two months or longer.

*Repairs on the Playground.* Every recreation director should be equipped with a tire patching outfit, some waxed linen thread (shoemakers' thread) and a heavy curved mattress needle.

Rubber balls, bladders and even the fairly recent fabric constructed rubber-covered footballs, basketballs and soccer balls, can often be repaired by application of a cold patch. Patching outfits are inexpensive and they justify their cost many times over.

Leather goods which have stitching and especially the baseballs, playground balls, catchers' protectors and inflated leather balls, can readily be repaired by sewing. If the surface of the ball wears out and it becomes necessary to apply a patch, the job can best be done by a shoemaker. For best results, repair sewing should be done immediately the stitching shows signs of breakage.

*Major Repairs.* Certain kinds of repair require special equipment and workmanship not accessible at the recreation center. Such equipment usually is sent to a central repair shop or is taken care of by a traveling repair man.

This is true of gym mats which may need to be sewed, rebuilt, recovered, or repainted; tennis nets which need to be repaired; crokinole boards; croquet mallets which need the handles replaced. Replacing broken wooden handles with steel pipe has proved most satisfactory. In the well-equipped shop, broken bats on the playground are salvaged and croquet mallets made from them by turning on the lathe. Often the shop can make satisfactory ping-pong and paddle tennis paddles from plywood.

No doubt many little "tricks of the trade" are being successfully used by recreation leaders to lengthen the life of play and athletic equipment. The writer has listed some of the more easily applied practices which are not contingent upon some circumstance peculiar to the locality.

For example: the local recreation department, after much experimenting, has

"Before a ball of any description is issued for use," writes J. J. Syme, Superintendent of Recreation, Hamilton, Canada, "it receives a dressing of Army Dubbing. Staff members are given a supply with which to keep balls coated. They are also furnished with twine and needles to stitch broken seams, especially in softballs. When a ball becomes unfit for league games or for use by older players it is handed down to the juniors for practice games. No new ball is issued until the old one is beyond repair. We use old covers for handcraft. Rubber bladders and the inside (string portion) of old softballs are sent to the Salvage Department of the Red Cross."

(Continued on page 49)



# Folk Lore in Our Day

By

SARAH GERTRUDE KNOTT

National Director  
National Folk Festival

"In spite of the urgent necessity for building warships, airplanes, and other implements of war, we must not forget that an essential element in success is the spirit of our people. We must keep alive our national traditions—our folk songs, our music and dances which reflect the spirit of democracy."

THERE HAS NEVER been a time in the history of our country when the need for recreation of all kinds has been so widely recognized as it is today. It has not been long since recreation was considered the privilege of only a favored few and organized recreation for all was not thought of either for peace or wartime. Our puritanical forefathers discouraged worldly pleasures, but now that there are no longer trails to blaze through the wilderness; now that conditions of life are easier and shorter working hours provide more leisure, the picture is changed and organizations and groups everywhere are recognizing leisure-time activities as an essential element in the well-rounded life of every individual.

During these war days there is a great challenge to the National Recreation Association and other groups interested in recreation, whether the program emphasizes physical fitness or the uplifting of the soul. The importance of all types of leisure-time activities cannot be overemphasized.

## Folk Festivals Fill a Need

The folk festival is one form of activity which may well be encouraged for many reasons. Lead-

ers in the field of folk lore, recognizing the contributions which are possible through concerted effort, have formulated plans which may be put into effect by people throughout the country convinced of the values in this field. These leaders believe that now is the time to develop plans for making more effective use of the folk traditions which contribute so vitally to better understanding and help meet the need for recreation now so universally recognized. In community folk festivals they see an activity in which many can participate. They feel that an exchange of folk songs, music, and dances of old and new Americans might do much to integrate the two groups. They believe that such a program would cost little and could be carried on by local leaders in practically every community in the United States, since there are few that do not have some type of folk songs, music, and dances.

As a result of the suggested plan now available through the National Folk Festival, a number of new festivals are being planned and expanded plans have been made for the National Folk Festival.

Eight National Folk Festivals have been held in the United States since 1934—in St. Louis, Chattanooga, Dallas, Chicago, and for the past four years in Washington. The ninth annual National Folk Festival will be held in Washington from May 6th to 9th under the sponsorship of the

Washington Post Folk Festival Association, with a New York presentation in Madison Square Garden on May 11th under the sponsorship of the New York Post Folk Festival Association. It is hoped that this year groups from old and new festivals will send representatives to help present a more colorful, significant picture of the folk life of our country. For while the National Folk Festival is an incentive to local folk festivals, it is the local festival which reaches down to the roots of a community and gives a true picture of its life. During the past nine years many community or state festivals have sprung up, some of them through the incentive of the National Festival, and the directors of these and other folk festivals form a nucleus of leadership in the folk field which can render a much needed national service.

#### Cultural Relationships Essential

In the past few years we have come to recognize the fact that international cultural relationships are important in the development of inter-American relations. Our government has officially recognized the need for an international cultural relations program. The Pan-American Union, the Cultural Division of the State Department, and the Rockefeller Committee are at work on plans for a program of cultural as well as economic relations with the Latin American countries. Cultural exchanges are admittedly important in this program. Deep-seated folk expressions offer one of the more significant mediums through which to arrive at better understanding, since through them we see individual differences and similarities which grew out of racial and national needs and experiences. There is a universal strain running throughout the whole body of folk traditions which shows a fundamental kinship of all the human race.

If a cultural relations program is of value in cementing friendships and the realization of common ideals internationally, it is reasonable to think that a practical, educational activity program applied to our own country, which utilizes in democratic fashion the traditional heritages of all our people, might serve a great purpose in the present and future development of our country.

We face a future in which it will be far more necessary for the people of divergent strains to understand each other than ever before. Our

nation has suddenly become a neighborhood. We must understand our neighbors at home as well as abroad. The United States is now guardian of many of the folk traditions or war-torn Europe. They are priceless legacies reflecting the richness of old ways of life in the Old World. Our cultural life and that of the world will be less rich if we lose them. The best way to preserve them for the future is through use now. We shall no doubt emerge at length from the period through which we are living with changed ideas and ideals, with many of the old traditions which have fundamental values forgotten unless we make a conscious effort now to hold them.

In wartime there is always an upsurge of nationalism such as we are experiencing today. When there is danger to a nation its people arouse themselves not only to protect boundary lines and political and economic systems, but to preserve its spirit. Old and new Americans today are fighting for the liberty and the democratic principles which drew them to the shores of the New World. Long ago the traditions brought here by early colonists were accepted as a part of the American tradition. If we can now accept and claim as our own both old and new at a time when we are brought together by the necessity for the common defense of our country, we shall take a great step forward in real Americanization.

Old Americans are not considered less American because their traditions are of European origin. Why should the new ones be? Time will settle that.

All peoples must have roots somewhere. The sooner the traditions brought from other countries are recognized as a part of the cultural living of all Americans the more speedy will be the integration.

#### Cherishing Folk Traditions

Dorothy Darlington of London tells an interesting story of how exiled armies and governments are cherishing their folk traditions in Great Britain. The governments of Poland, Czechoslovakia, the Netherlands, and Yugoslavia sought refuge in Great Britain after the fall of their countries during the war. There they are carrying on with great determination the national folk songs, music, and dances of their native lands. Each army has its choir, bands, and musicians

"Before we can appreciate the distinctive contributions of other countries, we must know our own basic cultures. If we know the fundamental patterns in the United States, we shall have a good basis for an appreciation of the major cultures of the world, since ours is made up of forms brought from the native lands of our many peoples, whether they be European or Latin American."



of all kinds. Even under the strains of war they see that battle alone will not win the war—that the spirit of all the people will be a strong determining factor. They realize that the songs, music, and dances of their native lands are the strongest ties they have in binding scattered people together. They know that only by keeping the soul of their countries alive can they hope to see their flags waving again against the skies of their native lands. Survival of cherished traditions will insure post-war cultures of a basis upon which to rebuild.

The conquerors have recognized the strength of the traditions of these peoples. In many conquered nations they have forbidden the use of native songs and dances, feeling the necessity of making cultural as well as economic slaves of conquered people.

Ours is one of the few nations where groups can now come together with distinctive songs, music, and dances regardless of race, creed, or nationality. We are bound together by one language and one flag. The national Folk Festival has encouraged and promoted the friendly mingling of these groups and is demonstrating the fact that it can still be done in the United States.

### Recording Folk Lore

Certain scientists, scholars, and poets have long seen the value of folk traditions, but we are only now recognizing the necessity or the possibility of a general use of them for recreational purposes. In the last hundred years there has gradually developed a broadening of interest in folk lore in most countries. Though some of the European countries, especially Scandinavia, in the early part of the seventeenth century began collecting folk materials and establishing museums for their preservation, it was not until the middle of the nineteenth century that folk lore really attained the status of a science recognized by scholars generally in western Europe and America. It was only in 1846 that the term "traditions" or "popular antiquities" became folk lore through the coinage of the word by Thoms of England.

This new expression "folk lore" proved more usable, more alive. No doubt it played a part in opening the way for expanded interest in traditional forms. The revival of folk lore in most countries of the world would not have been likely if we had continued to use the word "antiquities."

It was not until the latter part of the last century, through incentives given by the scientific methods laid down by the Brothers Grimm of

Germany, that folklorists from England, Germany, France, Scandinavia, America, and other countries began to make studies, to analyze and classify myths, legends, spirituals, music, and dances. The chief concern of many of the folklorists contemporary with the Grimm Brothers was to trace the history of the human race through the scientific study of folk lore. There was no other way, except through archeological findings, to open the closed door of the past.

Other scholars in these countries for more specific literary purposes have analyzed, classified, and collected folk material. Generally they have dealt with materials from the purely literary standpoint, with no thought of putting them back into circulation or making them serve any other than a literary purpose. Since the turn of the century however, there has developed a steadily growing interest in collecting folk expressions for their own values. Musicians, dancers, and lovers of folk expressions are interested in making them available for use.

Just as scientific and literary interest in folk lore spread in early days throughout western Europe and America, at about the same period, so this more recent humanized approach came to the different countries at about the same time. It is no wonder that throughout a large part of the world today a revival of interest in the use of folk songs, music, and dances has reached most countries.

England, the United States, and many of the European countries owe a great debt to Cecil J. Sharp of England who was among the first to see the value of a revival of folk expressions. Though he was collector, he had visions beyond that. He saw the value of folk songs, music, and dances of England for social purposes. He was a musician as well as a literary man. His collections and arrangements with music for songs and directions for dances made in England and America about thirty years ago, and his interest in teaching started a revival in England which spread to other European countries and reached America.

The first collections of British ballads and folk songs in the United States by Child, Kittredge, Pound, and others included texts of traditional ballads, collected and discussed from the literary standpoint, with little or no music. More recent collections have been made covering traditional expressions of the Indian, British, Spanish-American, German, French, and other Old World heritages, also Negro, lumberjack, cowboy, miner, sailor, and other New World creations which have

contributed to American folk life. Many of the first collections here were not made with any idea of continued use as folk expressions, but within the last ten years there has been an increasing interest in usable songs and dances, including music for the songs, directions for the dance as well as myths and tales for use. Music teachers, physical education directors, rural sociologists, recreation leaders, and others have begun to draw their material from these sources. Even anthropologists and scientific folklorists are beginning to humanize their approach. As a result of this more general interest, national and international folk festivals have been held in England, Sweden, Hungary, Germany, Russia, Italy, Canada, Mexico and Bolivia, as well as in the United States.

#### Value of Folk Traditions to National Life

One hundred years ago, or even twenty-five years ago, we did not see the value of folk traditions in an international cultural relations program among the nations in this hemisphere. We did not see that they had special value to national life. We know now that we must take them into consideration because practically all nations of the world are using them.

The totalitarian states for a number of years have been developing contacts of a cultural nature in the countries to the south, as well as our own country. But they have not been content with the development of better international relations. They have made every effort to bind together their own people for national strength and solidarity. They have consciously worked toward pride in race and national unity. The use of folk traditions in national recreation programs has played an important part.

Germany, Italy, and Russia for ten years or more have used the simple folk songs, music and dances in developing "esprit de corps" and uniting the people of their countries. The Finns and Czechs owe much of their strength and fighting spirit to traditions which gave them common ideals.

England's scientists saw the value of folk traditions a number of years ago. One of the early scientific folklorists, Tylor, writing in 1870, said: "She who rules over vast territories of infinite diversity . . . of all stages of culture, cannot possibly govern without taking into account the motivating powers that actuate them." Hartland, a contemporary of Tylor, said: "What a waste of precious human lives might have been avoided in our manifold dealings . . . if we had been acquainted with

their methods of thought." Since that time efforts have been made by scholars and scientists in our country as well as in others to understand the individual characteristics of various peoples which are best expressed through folk traditions.

If the totalitarian states have found their folk traditions of value in creating a spirit of unity, if Czechoslovakia, Finland, and other countries in time of peace as well as war have found in them joy and spiritual strength, would it not be wise for the United States with its many groups of diverse philosophies of life to consider well its folk traditions?

Each group within our borders has its own peculiar temperament, its own distinctive quality and philosophy of life, and its inherent characteristic expressions in folk songs, music, and dances, legends and folk stories. The use of these traditions now would undoubtedly go far in making possible a richer cultural life in peacetime and in creating a more united front in war endeavors.

From the vantage point of the twentieth century we see many significant individual differences in our people which we could not have seen earlier. Time had to give us perspective. If the white man in the early days had better understood the Indian—but he could not until he glimpsed him in his age-old ceremonials in which his soul speaks. If we had known the burdened soul of the Negro in bondage—but we could not until we heard his soul cry through the spirituals which grew out of that burden. If we had become better acquainted with our Spanish-Americans whose traditions have roots four hundred years old in what is now United States soil—but it took a world crisis to attract attention to them.

At last we are beginning to understand along with older nations that folk traditions are not just relics of an outlived past but are vital today. The National Folk Festival and community folk festivals planned throughout the country for 1942 have a real contribution to make to the recreation program of the United States.

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"We are talking much about the conservation of our forests, wildlife, and land. Land can be restored, and the forests brought back, but once life has gone out of a people's stories, songs and dances, the intimate reflections of their deepest sentiments and feelings, they cannot be restored to their original forms. Now, while traditions endure, is our opportunity."—*Sarah Gertrude Knott in Educational Dance.*

# Fishing—A Sport for All

**F**ISHING SHOULD have a place in every camp.

There are thousands of places comfortably and ideally located on lakes, streams, rivers and oceans, conducting a waterfront program which is popular for both young and old. It is surprising, however, how few camps have used their immediate waters for angling as a part of their leisure-time activity.

"A fishing counselor in every camp" should be the slogan of the director and educator, as it has been proved that angling supplies those characteristics which aid in the development of the whole boy and girl. The young fisherman learns patience, tolerance, self control, appreciation of nature and fair play after many eventful experiences. The great outdoors offers a challenge to the angler. There seems to be a new incentive and desire to live and a new interest in nature's wonders. A person soon realizes how insignificant he is when faced with the open sky and large bodies of water.

Here is an activity that can

**With special reference to the importance of fishing at camp**

*By* FRANCOIS D'ELISCU

**Dr. D'Eliscu, who very evidently ranks fishing high in his list of sports, is connected with the Department of Health and Physical Education and Recreation at both Teachers College, Columbia University, and New York University.**

**Members of the Women's Department of Physical Education at New York University receive instruction in the use of reels at Lake Sebago, Sloatsburg, N. Y.**

be indulged in by all ages and sexes and carried on through life as a valuable leisure-time sport. Angling furnishes mental relaxation and permits one to think sanely. It is an excellent self-disciplinarian.

Camps can carry on this inexpensive sport by teaching casting, whether it be bait, fly or surf casting, as it will supply interest and competition, and will answer the demands of parents and educators to have the

camps encourage more individual development of motor skills and complete achievement tests that are practical.

Every camp director should employ a fishing counselor. He should be enthusiastic in his work and patient with his students and his teachings. He should understand angling, the use and care of equipment, and be well versed in his subject, so that he can successfully carry out his program in

the waters where his camp is located. For the angler who has an elementary knowledge of ichthyotaxidermy, he will be





more valuable to his camp in that he can teach angling and assist the boys and girls to mount their catch for the camp museum or their own study at home. We need more Izaak Waltons among our youth of today. Teach them conservation while they are young, and they will become more appreciative of wild life, and will help keep our waters properly stocked and protected from pollution and overcommercial fishing. Good anglers obey the laws as laid down by their respective commissions. This cooperative, democratic attitude becomes a carry-over into late life.

Directors of camps must realize that these youngsters who are being exposed to angling will become enthusiastic followers of the great sport that is so stimulating and popular. It is a sport that is enjoyable and recreative, and it should prove a most acceptable activity to parents and to campers themselves. Encourage fishing and you will find a rejuvenated child who is more considerate, fair, helpful, cooperative, and a good companion in a boat, on shore and at home.

The following material has been arranged in outline form to aid camp directors and counselors interested in some pertinent information relative to angling.

### Equipment

**Bait Casting.** Bait casting is thrilling and exciting and provides a lot of action. Every boy and girl will find a great deal of pleasure fishing in every little nook and cove, large and small pocket, on grassy shore, around snags, rushes, stumps, weeds, lily pads, and even around your own boat dock. Many a large fish has been caught right off the dock.

#### A. *Secure a Good Rod*

1. A full action rod with a stiff butt.
2. Straight taper rods make a slow cast certain, which in turn, allows a follow-through motion.
3. Slow action rods will make the real start slowly and assure better casting, and will also eliminate unnecessary backlash.
4. For juniors in camps, a 5' 3" or 5' 6" split bamboo or tubular steel pole should be very effective.
5. Light rod and light lure are much better than heavy rod and heavy lure.

"Anglers fishing in the United States are estimated to spend almost eight hundred and seventy-seven million dollars annually. The angler's dollar is spent not only for fishing licenses but on transportation, food, lodging, bait, boats, clothing and other incidentals."—From *Report, 1939, Bulletin No. 3, U.S. Chamber of Commerce.*

In teaching casting, the proper stroke, timing, and thumb control should be emphasized. The boy should be taught to keep his eyes on the target. Overhead casting should be mastered first for beginners; sideswipes should be discouraged, as they are dangerous

when not properly controlled.

#### B. *Secure a Good Reel*

1. Shakespeare's reels are probably the best type of reel for boys in camp and are inexpensive. They are recommended because they have an anti-backlash working mechanism.
2. Light aluminum spools are preferable to any other type.
3. Use an arbor 1/16" in diameter around the aluminum spool before winding line.
4. A clean reel insures against backlashes.
5. Backlashes are caused by the reel running faster than the plug or weight is traveling.
6. Jerky casts, twisted casting or trolling line are other causes of backlashes and at times also cause breakage of the line.

#### C. *Secure a Good Line*

1. Only a silk line of fine quality should be bought for bait casting. It should be soft, smooth, non-breaking silk. This assures easy running from the reel; it is easily spooled, wears longer and makes for higher casting efficiency.
2. For bass fishing, a 10 or 12 pound test line is needed, 50 yards in length. If this does not fill the spool you should use a cork arbor fitted to the spool.
3. The line should be hard-braided and waterproof with the color left entirely to the individual, pepper and salt, and black being preferable.
4. Waterproof line is the best as it will stand more abuse and with proper care will last longer. Soft-braided line makes casting much easier but will catch more water.
5. In considering line, it is necessary to know that line kinks and twists are caused by revolving lures that do not spin properly in the swivel.
6. If the line is to be kept in good condition, oil should be applied to all the spools, swivel and spinners that revolve.
7. Be careful of the lure that is caught in weeds or lily pads as it will cause the line to twist.

8. Do not take any chances by not untwisting the line or replacing the line if it is too far gone.
9. Dry the line each evening or following your fishing trip. Never allow it to remain wet on the reel over night.
10. Reverse the line as often as possible as you will then have the line used at both ends.
11. When it becomes weak, replace the entire spool.
12. Discard a weak line and never use one with knots as it will not only cause backlash but will interfere with proper casting.
13. Do not buy cheap line—you may lose your only and largest fish. Buy the best high-grade line and then take good care of it. Boys and girls in camp should be taught this at their first lesson as it is necessary to take care of the line, so that it will last an entire season, and assure safe fishing.
4. The question of color is arbitrary. Every angler selects his own color and swears by it, whether it be red, white, black and white, frog finish, spotted, striped, or mouse color.
5. Beginners should be taught to use a surface plug first, as early bass are still in the shallows and it will make possible the retrieving lesson, which is important in casting. One should retrieve faster in the early season and employ zig-zag motion by either the action of the plug itself or with a jerking movement of the rod.
6. Allow small weighted plugs to sink near deep water and then retrieve. It annoys the fellow below and he may bite it—as usual without thinking first!
7. Large mouth bass are found around weeds, lily pads and sunken logs. They bite fast and fight to the last.

#### Wet Flies

1. Brown hackle and the gray hackle — neither fly has a wing and consists of a body of herl or dubbin with hackle wound around the head.
2. Nymphs are useful in attracting fickle trout.
3. Royal Coachman—No. 8 and 10. If water is clear and low, use No. 12.
4. Royal Coachman, size No. 14 and 16, is an excellent dry fly. For early season fishing for trout and landlocked salmon, streamers and bucktails are recommended. The best streamer sizes are eights, sixes and fours. The Hellcat, Pink Pup, Black Dog, Black Ghost, Gray Ghost, Light Tiger, Dark Tiger, are very popular. Choose your own after experience. Weather has a great deal to do with the selection and use of flies in fishing. They must be studied. Full streams demand large flies; low streams small flies.

#### Drop Line Fishing

Any line, plus the size of hook that is necessary for the fish that live in the waters in your camp, can be purchased at a very nominal cost.

#### How to Hook Live Bait

1. Crawfish—in tail.
2. Frogs—through both lips or use frog harness.
3. Small minnows—through both lips.
4. Salamanders — through both lips.
5. Hellgramites — through the collar near the head.
6. Grubs—wire on hook.

#### Additional Equipment

In addition to rods, reels and lines, the fishing counselor should secure a variety of:

1. Hooks, weights, Konkakee fish stringers about 4' long and fish nets, which can be made, incidentally, from old tennis and badminton rackets or hoops, with the crafts department teaching the camper how to make the net.
2. Pocket size tackle boxes—size 7" x 4½" x 7/8", weight ¼ lb.—should be a part of the equipment, and a cigar box will answer the purpose very definitely for the first year.

#### Artificial Plugs or Lures

1. Plugs are extremely popular and can be purchased in a wide range of sizes, colors and shapes. Artificial bait casting is most successful, but campers must first be taught how to cast before being permitted to handle a plug with hooks.
2. For bass fishing the surface and semi-surface plugs are the ones to select. The experienced angler may select one resembling a shiner, minnow, baby pike, frog, plunker, or any other favorite plug.
3. The 5/8 ounce plug or the small half ounce plug is very popular.

"But, no matter how the real pleasure of fishing is brought home to him, there is one thought which should be implanted in his mind early in his fishing career, and that is that the actual taking of any particular fish is of no great importance. How the fish was taken; under what conditions and by what method—these things, if carefully noted, are the stones with which a solid foundation of angling knowledge is constructed."—*John Alden Knight in The Modern Angler*, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1936.

### Safety

Safety procedures are very necessary for both the fishing counselor and the anglers. The following suggestions are important for safety in fishing:

1. Use a safe boat, and never overload it.
2. Always carry extra motor fuel, if you are using an outboard motor.
3. Be sure the boat has a bailer or tin can in case of rain or a leak.
4. Never leave in a boat without the necessary tools, especially if an outboard motor is used.
5. Always tell some person where you are going—where you will be, and when you are expected back.
6. Be sure and carry a flashlight and extra cells. A modern Kindle-Light red flare should be part of the equipment in case you are lost.
7. Inspect your tent and see whether it is watertight.
8. Inflate the air mattress for holes, if any.
9. Never carry loose hooks in the boat. Use pocket-size tackle boxes.
10. Never cast with someone behind you.
11. Always carry extra line.
12. Never leave on a fishing trip without a small first-aid kit containing iodine, sterile gauze, adhesive tape, tourniquet, sharp knife, side-cutting pliers, and all other equipment that is found in a first aid kit.
13. Always push a hook through, if caught. Then cut it into two pieces and pull out.
14. If using a boat, use clove-hitch for anchorage to the dock. Be sure your lines are strong.
15. Keep your boat clean. Wash it off at night, and, if possible, dry it.
16. Know your knots if you want to be safe. A boatman should always be sure of his anchor line.
17. Lines should be carefully coiled and should be read for instant use.
18. Always hang your rods on a rack. Never allow them to lie on the grass or on floor.
19. Avoid placing hooks, pans or poles in spots where it is dangerous.
20. Keep the rod in proper angle—do not hook yourself.
21. Do not handle hot dishes or hot pots with hands that are not protected.
22. Do not let your grease or fat become too hot—it will burn and cause a flame. Play safe with heat and fire.
23. Know the poison ivy leaf—play safe!
24. Do not drink water from questionable or possibly polluted streams.
25. Do not forget your can opener; don't use improvised tools. It may cause serious cuts.
26. Blankets are bulky and inconvenient in the beginning but are mighty comfortable at night. A sweater is appreciated.
27. Never wade a stream unless you know where the holes are located.
28. Never carry your rod and hooks through bushes. They may catch the bush or you. Replace hooks in a box for safety.
29. Never leave a fire burning. Be careful with matches. Watch the wind—do not build too large a fire. It must be continually under control.
30. In surf casting be sure you have plenty of room around you.
31. Be sure and cut about three feet from the end of your line each night after drying. It will help you catch the big one.
32. Remember you are conserving fish—use good judgment in not keeping the small ones. Let them grow to big ones!
33. Obey the laws!

"The quality of a man's sportsmanship is determined by his attitude toward the difficulties he meets in following a sport in which overcoming obstacles constitutes a game. The fisherman who removes or sidesteps the obstacles cheats himself of the real enjoyment of fishing. A man gets a greater thrill out of an attempt to hook his own sailfish—even though he misses—than when the boatman hands him the rod after the fish is hooked. Take the foul lines and hazards out of any game and the game will die. In the same manner, the man who does not accept the challenges offered in fishing misses most of what the sport can give."—Major Harlan in *Salt Water Tackle*, Funk and Wagnalls Co., New York.

### Hints

1. Fishing rod clip. Place on side of the boat two clips which will hold the pole in place and off the floor.
2. Hook on tackle box. See that a round metal key ring is attached to the handle on your tackle box, so that a cord can be tied from the ring to the boat. If an accident occurs, you won't lose your tackle box and equipment.
3. Line drier. Secure two hooked umbrella

(Continued on page 46)



# In Defense of Recreation

CITIZENS of Bloomfield, New Jersey, completely routed a sudden attempt to reduce the 1942 appropriation for their Recreation Commission from \$23,250 to \$15,000. The Town Council had notified the Commission of the date of a hearing on its budget, but before the time came, yielded by a 4 to 3 vote after the first reading of the town budget to the demands of persons from local groups to cut \$8,250 from the appropriation. Since the rules of the town provide that after a budget is adopted on first reading it may be reduced or increased by only ten per cent, it appeared that the best appropriation the Commission could now hope for was \$16,500 on the final passage.

Informed of what had happened, Superintendent of Recreation C. A. Emmons and his staff took their problem to the Commission and influential citizens. Then the tide of public opinion began to rise. The councilmen who voted to curtail the budget were kept busy answering telephone calls from militant citizens friendly to recreation. The Recreation Commission held a special Sunday session and laid plans for the next and final hearing on the budget. Persons who could not attend that hearing were asked to send letters and telegrams to the mayor protesting the cut. He received a hundred such communications. Ten representative citizens, including the first president of the Recreation Commission and the president of the Chamber of Commerce, agreed to address the Council in brief talks. A representative of the National Recreation Association agreed to cite what other New Jersey communities were doing in recreation.

Before the hour of the hearing it was unofficially learned that two of the "misguided" councilmen had repented. It remained for the hearing to make this recantation unanimous for the Council chamber was well filled with 200 citizens, the majority of them enthusiastic for recreation. One after another leading business men, a clergyman, representatives of Parent-Teacher Associations, musical leaders, and participants in the program arose and gave eloquent testimony to the importance of rec-

**Attempts to make drastic and unreasonable cuts in recreation programs and budgets have already been reported this year. It is possible other such attempts will follow. Mounting federal taxes have led some groups to turn on the social services of local government as the easiest targets of tax reduction campaigns. How two such attacks were defeated is briefly reviewed in this article for the benefit of recreation agencies which may soon be confronted with a similar emergency in their own community.**

reation now. It was convincing to hear the president of the Chamber of Commerce cite his record of effort at tax reduction but his opposition to curtailing recreation. Bloomfield's wide reputation for its music organizations was cited, among other accomplishments of the Recreation Department. The opposition, though repre-

sented at the hearing, was not very vocal. Superintendent Emmons sat at his ease throughout the session, not speaking, as the citizens of Bloomfield gave ringing endorsement to the recreation program.

The conclusion was foregone. The Council voted unanimously to restore every penny of the \$23,250 budget.

## In Montclair

In Montclair, a neighboring town, the problem took a different form but the solution was similar to that in Bloomfield. Here the Town Commission, pressed fanatically by persons demanding tax reduction at any cost, sent a questionnaire to all persons paying water bills inviting their votes on the reduction of four town services, including library service and the complete elimination of recreation. This referendum implied no opposition to recreation on the part of the Commission. But the recreation program had been functioning on a year-round basis *only four months*. Its effectiveness was unknown to a vast majority of the people of a town unusually dependent hitherto on private resources for recreation. Although the questionnaire explained in brief the service given by the Recreation Department and the numbers reached, it could not be expected, under the circumstances, that a large number of citizens whose families were not yet directly served by the program would vote for the retention of recreation.

On the initiative of one or two individuals a citizens' organization was formed to protect the recreation program. It was made up from twenty civic agencies which endorsed the new department when it was initiated early in 1941. The group acted independently but in complete cooperation

with the official recreation committee whose functions are advisory. Meeting as quickly as possible under the chairmanship of a well-known New York and Montclair lawyer, the citizens' group delegated to its members such duties as (a) writing letters to the local weekly paper favoring the recreation program, (b) urging their friends and neighbors to vote to retain the recreation appropriation, and (c) asking the clergy to speak in the pulpits in favor of recreation. Parent-Teacher Association representatives present agreed to circularize their members. Talks were arranged for several regular meetings of civic and Parent-Teacher organizations scheduled for the following week.

The Montclair Association, a powerful citizen organization interested in good government and represented on the citizens' committee, mailed a special bulletin to its mailing list of 2,000 persons suggesting favorable action on recreation, library, and other items. The League of Women Voters, the Colored Branch of the Y.W.C.A., and other organizations voted endorsements of the recreation appropriation and sent them to the Commissioners. A number of clergymen spoke on the issue, one making a special address praising both the recreation program and its director. One Parent-Teacher Association circularized its membership asking for a vote on recreation and two other items on the town questionnaire. Of 200 replies, 193 favored the recreation appropriation. These returns were filed with the mayor.

The Budget Research Committee, a voluntary citizens' organization interested in economical government, made a careful study of the recreation program and recommended to the Commissioners that no cut be made in it. This in itself was an important victory for recreation. One of the considerations influencing the action by the Budget Committee was the receipt of signed statements from the Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., Adult Education Council, and three other leisure agencies stating that the Recreation Department was not duplicating their work. These statements were obtained personally by the Superintendent of Recreation.

The National Recreation Association lent the services of a staff member for a few days and sent strong letters

to its local members asking them to work to save the program. An advertisement covering three-fifths of a page was inserted in the local paper. This filled an important need for it informed the readers of the paper just what the recreation program included and what it would mean to discontinue it. Many strong letters favorable to recreation were printed in two successive issues of the paper and a news story was run telling of the committees' activities. A committee member mimeographed 500 postal cards for use by taxpayers who did not get the town questionnaire. These persons included renters and others not paying town water bills direct. They were distributed through various organizations in the community.

At a second meeting of a portion of the committee, plans were laid for the town budget hearing. A list of persons effective as speakers and representing a good balance of interests was discussed. Omitted were persons who were *always* vocal in favor of good services by the town but costing money. Committee members accepted the responsibility for approaching possible speakers. The order of appearance for three or four of the speakers was agreed on. Included in the list of speakers were a clergyman, a doctor, the Town Recorder, head of the Parent-Teacher Association, the chairman and one other member of the Recreation Advisory Committee, a member of the School Board, and one or two participants in the program. The League of Women Voters and several committee members went to work again on the telephone to make sure that a large group of citizens would be present at the hearing.

On the other hand, the leader of the group seeking drastic reduction of taxes wrote to 150 citizens urging them to appear at the hearing.

The hall was packed on the night of the hearing. Applause showed that three-fourths of the persons

present were strong for the recreation appropriation. The commissioner most responsible for issuing the questionnaire announced that the returns constitute a fine endorsement of the recreation program, taking into account that it was so new. Two of the other commissioners present, including the mayor, also spoke favorably about the recreation

**"No recreational program can be successful from any service or financial point of view if it represents only the accomplishments of the paid personnel of an agency. The program must take root in the lives of the people; it must become, in a very real way, their program. When this is true, the people themselves will rally to its support if it is endangered. Furthermore, they will enlist the interest of others in the program from day to day, and will be a dynamic force in extending its influence and service."—From *A Study of the Park and Recreation Problem in the United States*.**

(Continued on page 44)

# Finger Puppets and How to Use Them

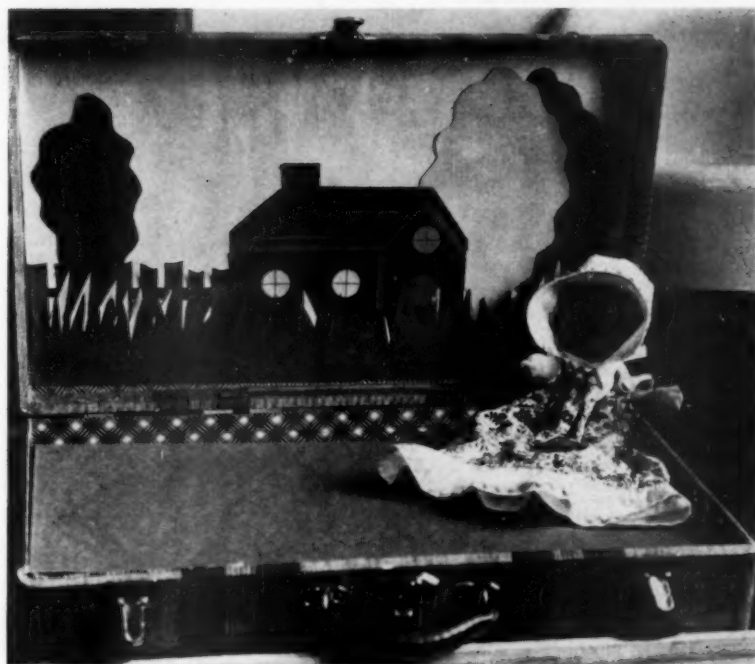
Have you thought of the many entertainment values of finger puppets in the present emergency? Here are a few suggestions on using them to advantage

**F**INGER PUPPETS have great practical value for informal, impromptu entertainments. Many of them slip conveniently into the purse or pocket; they require no elaborate stage and can be operated easily by the inexperienced. Their uniqueness attracts and holds the interest of any group of children or adults.

For all these reasons finger puppets may be used successfully in many situations occurring during the war emergency. They may, for example, be used in offices and schools during blackouts or air raid drills. A desk may serve as a stage, with the desk blotter held up as a back drop. A wooden desk or chair seat provides a good sounding board for a tap dancing finger puppet. An accompaniment may be provided by combs covered with onion skin paper, usually available in offices. Flashlights will serve as a "spot."

Keeping the young convalescent happy to speed his recovery is often a difficult matter. In the home or in the hospital, a pair of finger puppets with which the child can play while in bed or getting about in a wheel chair will help solve this problem. Select amusing characters such as clowns or a boy and a girl dressed in unusual costumes. The child can use the counterpane over his knees as a stage.

In the home, finger puppets provide entertainment for the entire family. The necessary equipment may be stored in a small space and provides no problem. Make a stage from a small carton by cutting off the top and putting an opening in one side to represent the proscenium arch. Paint or line the inside of the box with black. The opening



A suitcase may very easily be converted into a handy traveling puppet theater

on the side through which a flashlight will shine gives the proper lighting. A bridge lamp can be substituted but it must be arranged in such a way that the light will fall on the puppets and not on the back drop. Slip a black stocking or cloth over your hands with holes for the first two fingers. Put your fingers into the puppets; the hand will be invisible against the black back drop. Put the stage on the table and turn out the lights in the room. If a carton is not available, an arm chair draped in black will answer the purpose. Try a beautiful ballerina, coordinating her movements with a piano accompaniment.

When taking groups on hikes be prepared for the rest period by slipping a finger puppet into your pocket or knapsack. He can tell wonderful nature stories or do a jig on the bottom of your frying pan!

Finger puppets can be used to add new interest to storytelling periods. If evacuation should be necessary, the children who are being transported to their new homes in the country may be amused

*(Continued on page 49)*



# What They Say About Recreation

"SCIENCE TAKES the world apart, philosophy puts it together again, religion gives it meaning. At this hour we are called upon to devote all our science, all our philosophy, all our religion, to the preservation of the only way of life of which we can conceive that gives value and dignity to man."—*Grove Patterson in Think*, November, 1941.

"Labor and leisure are the warp and woof of human experience. It takes the two together to weave a durable fabric in which both strength and beauty can withstand the wear and tear of every day."—*Hon. Paul V. McNutt*.

"The most precious product of our power production age is leisure. Leisure is the essence of life itself."—*Consumers Cooperative*.

"It is important to sound municipal management to realize that playgrounds are as useful in keeping down crime as policemen, and that suitable adult recreation will do more to preserve loyalty to American ideals than a myriad of spies and agents."—*Thomas H. Reed in Municipal Management*.

"America is not anything if it consists of each of us. It is something only if it consists of all of us; and it can consist of all of us only as our spirits are banded together in a common enterprise. That common enterprise is the enterprise of liberty and justice and right."—*Woodrow Wilson*.

"Nature study brings to our hard pressed teachers and pupils moments when tension is relaxed. It provides opportunity for self-expression. It diverts attention from the immediately present and practical to the everlasting."—*From Nature Garden Guide*, School Garden Association, New York City.

"A civilized city must accord a proper place to science and to learning, to recreation, to playgrounds, to music and to the fine arts, in addition to its normal housekeeping duties. It is by these achievements that our standard of development is measured, and justly so."—*H. E. Varga*, Director of Parks and Public Property, Cleveland, Ohio.

"Today love of our country and pride in all that it stands for are springing with renewed force from the roots of our people. The privileges which we enjoy make us think seriously of our obligations to protect all that we cherish."—*Thomas J. Watson*.

"The most important step in preserving the democratic system is to keep that 'moral vitamin' called social responsibility."—*Dorothy Canfield Fisher*.

"The field of recreation offers unlimited possibility for creative genius, knowledge, skill, and leadership in making play into a great art. A people is not civilized until it is creative, skillful, and versatile in its play."—*Arthur E. Morgan in The Community*.

"Turn your face to the future and you will hear America singing. America has a proud heroic past, a past to carry in our hearts and let mingle with the dream of what is to be."—*From the National Education Association Journal*.

"Laughter and play facilitate friendliness and comradeship. They flaunt in the face of the world one's refusal to be scared; they transform unbearable pathos into a sort of divine comedy; they divert attention from exclusive concern with the perils at hand; they confer a priceless sense of momentary detachment."—*From Education and the Morale of a Free People*. Educational Policies Commission.

Of the "Nine Freedoms" proposed in a National Resources Planning Board report, the final is the right to "rest, recreation, and adventure."

"The probabilities are that the rubber in our athletic supplies can be stretched a good deal by standardizing styles and finding substitutes. What happens after we have squeezed the last ounce of bounce out of every ball in anybody's guess."—*Mark A. McCloskey in Survey Graphic*.

"The aggregate happiness of society, which is best promoted for the practice of a virtuous policy, is, or ought to be, the end of government."—*George Washington*.

# Gardening for Pleasure

By ELLEN EDDY SHAW

THIS MAY SEEM a strange title in a serious war year, and yet perhaps it is the best title of all, to think that amidst all sorts of war troubles boys and girls may go on with a useful, pleasant, happy occupation. We are more than ever dependent upon our gardens both for comfort and cheer, and as our government and other authorities say, "for vitamins and vitality."

What is the pleasure we derive from gardening? Gardening is a piece of work that is hard in itself and requires constant effort, and yet at the same time gives perfectly splendid enjoyment. It is a fine thing for boys and girls to be occupied at something that is work, natural and normal work, not made-up tasks to keep their minds busy. It is splendid to do something that in itself demands proper concentration and proper carrying out of the laws of nature. No boy or girl can side-step this. If you plan your garden badly, it comes up badly. Fail to cultivate it, and it does not grow properly. Fail to thin, and you have dwarfed and also leggy plants. Fail to pick your crop and it becomes useless. So there we are.

So why not have a garden this summer frankly because you wish to? Just because you like to do a piece of strenuous work; just because you like to experiment and find out what are the best tomatoes that could be grown in your backyard, or whether it is possible to have a flower garden with only white flowers? These are real problems in themselves. Make out your own little garden book and check on yourself as you go along.

How do you know when it is time to start your garden? This is the rule. Take a handful of soil and close your hand over it. Does it crumble all apart when you open your fist? Then indeed it is time to start your garden. Or does it remain firmly together? Then you must wait. Put this down in your garden book! First, the date you start your garden operations; then the dates you plant your small



Print by Gedge Harmon

vegetables like radishes, beets, carrots; then the date in early May when you start your flower garden, and the date in mid-May when you put out your tomato plants, eggplants, and peppers. You might also put down in your book this little motto: "He who makes a garden also serves his country." Then sign your name. You can take any blank book for this.

Perhaps you would like to know the vegetables that give you plenty of vitamins. Some of these are lettuce, spinach, string beans, carrots, and beets. Then would you not like to say that your flowers are for pleasure—isn't that what you plan a flower garden for? That is why I like one. You cannot eat your flowers, or at least there are very few which should be eaten.

Remember there are certain rules to be followed in starting a garden. You must have the soil fine and stones out of the way. You must measure your rows accurately and carefully. You should put down the things you must not do and the things you must do. "I must pick my flowers carefully with long stems. When I pick tomatoes, I must not pull the plants apart. I must not water my garden when the sun is shining upon it. I must not leave a puddle of water standing on the soil. I must be very careful that I do not waste a single seed, and I must plant exactly as the directions say." And if you wish a nice little plan for your garden, let us know, and we will help you work one out.

Perhaps it would be well for you to put this in your note-

(Continued on page 47)

Miss Shaw, who is Curator of Elementary Instruction, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, served as guest editor of the March 1938 issue of *Recreation*, a special number which was entirely devoted to the subject of gardens.

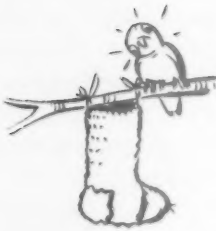


## Nature's Quiz-quest

By ELLSWORTH JAEGER



1. Is the skunk a member of the weasel family, cat family, or rodent family?
2. What animal makes mud pies?
3. Are there animals found in the United States that can exist without drinking?
4. What bird is a ventriloquist?
5. Can mice climb trees?
6. Is there an American reptile that shoots blood from its eyes?
7. What bird makes a Christmas stocking nest?
8. Do snakes have scent?
9. Do ants make scent trails?
10. Are owl-eggs round or egg-shaped?  
(If you need to, see page 47!)



Reprinted by courtesy of *Hobbies*, the magazine of the Buffalo Museum of Science, February 1942



# It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

## Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

**D**R. HUGH POTTER BAKER, President of Massachusetts State College, started the Outdoor Recreation Conference nine years ago. He emphasized that the colonists came to this country with the conservation of natural resources very much in mind, as expressed in their laws. The overabundance they found soon became a burden and they no longer believed in the need of saving. The two land grant colleges in the state brought back the idea of the importance of land and conservation. After having been in forestry over forty years, Dr. Baker assured the audience that although we are just beginning conservation, there is no reason to be discouraged.

*Evelyn Bergstrom*, educational staff of Massachusetts Audubon Society: Fourteen hundred boys and girls are now being served in twenty-two towns by forty-three contact periods every two weeks. Seventy-five thousand free leaflets, such as *Feeding Birds in Winter*, are sent out annually. Camp Devens has a bird club. The USO and Coast Guard have asked for bird houses and feeding shelves.

*Rachal Bruce*, State Teachers College, Fitchburgh: The State Committee on Conservation Education is setting up a course of study which will be put into operation at certain centers from which, it is hoped, the program will spread by contagion. Instead of twenty minute periods there will be big blocks of time. Some fundamental experiences will be organizing bird clubs, changing an ugly spot to a place of beauty, building a planetarium, or making a diorama of the world before man.

*Benton P. Cummings*, Hampshire County Club Agent: All projects of the 4-H program have many phases of conservation. Homemade camping equipment, feeding livestock, canning, and raising chicks are examples. Professor Needham's Natural History of the farm does not say identify twenty birds, but let's see what we can find down the fence row or in the swale.

*Fred Dow*, program director at Camp Wing, Duxbury, Massachusetts: Located two miles from John Alden's original home, this pioneer village has a stockade, drawbridges, and watch towers. One dollar enables a Boston boy to spend a week end in camp. His tuition is earned by working. His club votes on a project which will be a guiding force for the entire winter. This education-in-action program includes such things as building a bird-banding station, making and stocking a fish-pond, and reforestation. In this way boys with potential leadership are discovered to help with the 300 summer campers.

*Professor George Draper*, Springfield College, said that he was more concerned with the realm of free life than with freedom of speech. It has become a patriotic duty to see what we are engaged in during our free time. We have to become accustomed to outdoor life. Chop wood, live simply but strenuously, and acquire the art of making things. We must shift for ourselves, learning such things as how to gather clay and make a pot. Unless we adjust to the outdoors we are going to be handicapped.

*Dr. Elmer Ekblaw*, professor of geography at Clark University: We have not awakened to the great transformation we are in. When man domesticated the horse and realized what he could do, imperialism came into the world for the first time. It expanded his horizon and activities and he subdued others. We are going to have to learn to rub shoulders together. Conservation is not a science but a creed. Women's clubs are conserving the art of conversation and parliamentary law. Professor Ekblaw, who lived in the Arctic for several years, emphasized that if they killed a seal, walrus calves or eider duck, the people saved as much as possible to safeguard the future. On the other hand, when people hoard for themselves only, it is dangerous. We are living in comfort and ease because pioneers went out into the wilderness and cut the lumber and plowed the soil.

"So many timely and important things were brought out at the Nature Section of the Ninth Conference on Outdoor Recreation at Massachusetts State College, March 12-15, 1942, that the highlights should be passed on for the benefit of the readers of this column. Many of these nature-grams will serve as guide posts for the days immediately ahead."

Cap'n Bill

*Laurence B. Fletcher*, Secretary of the Trustees Public Reservation which was organized to acquire and maintain, and open to the public, under suitable regulations, beautiful and historic places within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts: The organization has secured about 50,000 acres in 36 properties in 50 years. Beautifully colored slides were used to tell the story. The Old Manse at Concord, the scenic Chesterfield Gorge, the William Cullen Bryant homestead in Cummington, the Medfield rhododendrons, and the Province Lands on Cape Cod are instances of the work of the organization. These are well managed trusts. The stewardship is more than incidental, as proved by the fact that every reservation is a bird sanctuary. The activities are beautifully described in well-illustrated pamphlets. The address: 50 Congress Street, Boston.

*Dr. Wm. M. Harlow*, New York State College of Forestry: When in the woods, pursue woods activities and not city games. It would be better for us to go back to 1776 than to be worn out in a thirty minute jaunt. Most camps never saw an axe, let alone a grindstone. An axe is not sharp unless it can sharpen a pencil. If the axe is sharp, do not use it to sharpen a pencil as it will dull it.

*Sgt. Robert Joyce*, assistant in recreation, Base Athletic and Recreation Office, 25th Air Base Squadron, Westover Field. His talk was a very fitting ending to the program, "Youth Speaks." He said that the greatest thing to conserve is our country, and emphasized the need of an all-out effort to win.

*Raymond J. Kenney*, Commissioner, Massachusetts Conservation Commission, characterized state forests as places where the public can go and see conservation problems being solved in a practical way. We are indebted to the CCC for these opportunities. The romance and color of their program caused people to drive out to see for themselves. They in turn told their neighbors and over 1,000,000 people visited our state forests last summer. Small charges pay for fifty per cent of maintenance. Twenty-five cents pays for parking, stove and fireplace, and swimming facilities. Many budgets have been cut, but the governor did not curtail the Recreation Department of the Conservation Commission which was an expression of the feeling of the people. State forests will be open for business. Even if there is no gas, folks will put one foot ahead of the other and come out. Recreation guide maps are mailed free.

*Robert McCambridge*, Rhode Island College of Education, Providence, told about a new publication entitled *Our Narragansett Bay*. Students in training worked out Part I, and the Marine Laboratory, Part II. Insects as a major problem will be published next. The Wild Life Federation keeps lantern slides at the college. The State Audubon Society furnishes free lectures. Two sanctuaries have nature guidance service. The children of the Henry Barnard School gave talks and prepared exhibits on tagging Christmas greens.

*Phyllis McNerny*, 4-H club leader, Cushman, Massachusetts, announced that the children had named their group the Indian Campers and would not know the word "conservation" if they heard it. However, they have been practicing conservation and outdoor good manners. The children wanted to build a tepee the first day but were told that that was something to work for. Up to the first cook-out they thought that fish was something to eat on Friday. The children interviewed the fire chief to get a permit to build their fire.

*James Miller*, 4-H club leader from Westhampton, had nineteen boys and girls make aquaria out of angle iron, solder, discarded automobile wind shields, and black asphalt roofing cement. Tropical fish were purchased. Some members lost their fish but others had good luck in propagation and thus possession was equalized. The aquaria led to such things as the study of viviparous (born alive) fish, the distribution of tropical varieties, the gathering of algae on the sides of the glass, the use of protozoa as food for the smallest fish, and the study of photosynthesis and parasites. In fact, an understanding of the whole animal ladder grew out of the project.

*Don W. Moyer*, Chief Scout Executive for New England: The Narragansett Council mobilized at the time of the hurricane and flood, and they are mobilizing now. The Scouts distributed 1,000,000 defense bond posters in ten days and collected 3,000,000 pounds of waste paper. They did not keep the money but used it for camping. Camp Syracuse was one of the first wilderness camps in the East (1922 in the Adirondacks). Activities include father and son trips for ten days, garden planning at camp, snowshoe patrol working out of Portland, the ski patrol at Rutland, and the bicycle trailer outfit at Springfield.

*William Nutting*, of the Boston Children's Museum, showed lantern slides of groups of children

(Continued on page 54)



## The Dauphin County Folk Festival

**I**N HARRISBURG, Pennsylvania, on the evenings of May 19, 20, and 21, the Dauphin County Folk Council will present its seventh annual folk festival, "Americans

All" in the Forum of the State Education Building. Since music, dancing and dramatics hold important parts in the cultural, social, national and religious life of our people, this festival of "Americans All" presents an opportunity for individuals of all walks of life to express themselves in a "democratic community activity." Groups of all kinds will participate — family groups, foreign-born American citizens, creative groups, industrial groups, nationality and racial, civic, cultural, and welfare groups, and military units.

This festival in Dauphin County is joining the nation-wide folk festival movement which was outlined in Washington, D. C., on September 18, 1941. The week of May 17th has been set aside as "National Folk Festival Week" so that new and old Americans can be given the opportunity to celebrate "Citizenship Day" as outlined by the Bureau of Immigration

**"American Unity Through Music" will be the theme of the 1942 festival to be presented in May by the Dauphin County Folk Council**

**By MARY BARNUM BUSH HAUCK**

Miss Hauck, Secretary of the Dauphin County Folk Council, has had unusual experience for her activities in the field of folk festivals. Formerly a public school music supervisor, she has for years conducted community music groups and has carried on much research in folk customs and music. In addition to the "Americans All" festivals for which she has been responsible, she has directed sixty-nine other festivals throughout Pennsylvania.

in the Department of Justice. The Indian town Gap Military Reservation is cooperating with the Festival Council. Soldiers will have an important part, and on Tuesday

and Wednesday evenings they will dramatize army camp life. Thursday evening, talented soldier-musicians and actors will appear. The stage will be decorated with the twenty-one flags of the Americas. The program will include folk songs, dances, music, legends, expressions, traditional instruments, and costumes all of which have been brought to this country to enrich our American culture.

The groups participating include American Indian, Greek, Hebrew, Negro, German, Welsh, Serbian, English, Canadian, Irish, Scotch, Chinese,

Macedonian, Mexican, Hungarian, Croatian, Slovak, Syrian, Puerto Rican, French Huguenot, and Pennsylvania German. Other cooperating organizations are: the Dauphin County Farm Bureau, the Dauphin County Historical Society, the Harrisburg Art Association and the

*(Continued on page 48)*



# The Festival of Nations

**T**HE 1942 Festival of Nations will be held in the St. Paul, Minnesota, auditorium arena May 1, 2, and 3, 1942.

The Festival of Nations developed independently in St. Paul under the stimulus of a felt community need and local interest. The first folk festival and homelands exhibit in the current series under the direction of Alice L. Sickels was held in April, 1932, in the St. Paul Y.W.C.A. auditorium. An outdoor folk festival without exhibits or foreign food was held in Como Park in 1933. The "Old World Market" became a feature of the festival held in 1934 in the concert and exhibition hall of the St. Paul auditorium. The present pattern of a festival, given in the elaborate setting of a mythical village made up of authentic replicas of houses and shops which exist in different countries, was developed in 1936. The name "Festival of Nations" was given to the folk festival in 1936 and was used again in 1939 and now in 1942.

In 1932 the folk festival and homelands exhibit in which eighteen nationality communities participated was open to the public without charge and attracted an attendance of 3,500. Since 1934 a small admission has been charged to cover expenses. In 1939 over 31,000 people enjoyed the festival, and it was necessary to turn away hundreds who could not be accommodated.

## The General Plan

The Festival of Nations as now presented in the block long arena of the city auditorium is in three distinct parts:

**Homelands Exhibits.** The homelands exhibits of the folk arts and crafts of the thirty-three peoples who have migrated in considerable numbers to Minnesota are on display in this exhibit. Each nationality or cultural group has its own exhibit in the corridors surrounding the Market Square. Each exhibit occupies space approximately eight feet by sixteen feet and

**Every three years St. Paul, after a preparatory period of eighteen months, presents the Festival of Nations. It will be held this year May 1, 2, and 3.**

is assembled and watched over by volunteers drawn from the group represented.

**Old World Market.** This market in which nearly two hundred dif-

ferent hot and cold foods, pastries, and beverages are prepared and sold by women of different cultural heritages from houses and shops typifying the backgrounds of all these people, occupies the Old World village which surrounds the Market Square in which the programs are given. Strolling minstrels entertain in the Square before and after the festival programs.

**Folk Festival Programs.** These programs, presented for two hours each time the festival is open, consist of six performances, each one different from the others. Except for the fifteen piece professional orchestra, which supplements the amateur musicians, the programs are presented entirely by volunteer performers. Each participant in the exhibits, the market, and on the programs wears a costume such as one of his ancestors might have worn, or an American period costume. Each festival program includes community singing and ends in an invitation to the spectators to join in the modern and folk dancing which follows for two hours in the Square. A single admission entitles the reserved seat ticket holder to seven hours of entertainment and participation.

During the program only those participants in costume may remain on the Square. Spectators sit in the balconies or "hills," and look down into the village. Every performance has about 1,500 participants, and since the festival is primarily for them, they are not huddled backstage awaiting their turns but sit at the tables in front of the shops enjoying the festival and informally taking their turns as performers.

Highlights of the 1942 program as it is taking shape in the hands of the committee include many intercultural numbers. One finale will be presented by girls of thirty-three backgrounds, each wear-

*(Continued on page 49)*

**"A folk festival is worth while provided it is genuine, has real beauty and sincere objectives, and brings satisfaction to the participants. The folk arts which have been transplanted to America live, in their purest forms, in the skills and memories of modest and sincere people. A true festival is the spontaneous expression of the participants; it belongs to them." — Alice L. Sickels, General Director, Festival of Nations.**

# WORLD AT PLAY

## Bicycling Clubs Enjoy Picnic

LAST November the Department of Playground and Recreation of Los Angeles, California, sponsored bicycle races and a picnic for the benefit of the Southern California Bicycle Clubs. The program consisted of softball games played by a number of the bicycle clubs, picnic specialties for women and children, a picnic lunch, and a tug of war. Following the tug of war came the races. There were half and one mile pursuit races, club championship sprint races, novelty races, special events, and special girls' races.

## Program of National Defense Recreation

THE Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, Recreation Division of WPA has put into operation a four point program of national defense recreation. With the cooperation of the University of Scranton, a physical fitness program is functioning in the Scranton Armory with over six hundred young men attending the daily classes. The second point has to do with the wives, mothers, and sisters of the boys in service. Service clubs have been established for them where such activities as bandage rolling, first aid, social recreation, knitting and the like are conducted. Farewell parties are given to departing draftees in the various neighborhoods. The training of volunteer recreation leaders for the Office of Civilian Defense is listed as Point 3. This includes a ten week course. Point 4 has to do with the acquisition of new sponsors for national defense recreation efforts, and new sponsors secured are being considered in terms of postwar sponsorship.

## Beneficial Effects of Recreation

AN ARTICLE in an issue of the *Archives of Neurology* reports

that an investigation of patients suffering from migraine or sick headaches showed that treatment through almost any form of relaxation — games, short holidays, literature, or music — reduced attacks from one every two weeks to as few as three or four a year.

## Promoting Morale on the Home Front

EACH WEEK the Dearborn, Michigan, *Press* and the Dearborn *Independent* publish a column of games designed for the use of homes and clubs. The column is prepared by Miss Wilma Clizbe of the Dearborn Department of Recreation, and through it the Department is hoping to promote morale on the home front.

## Lighted Play Areas in Jacksonville

FOR THE past sixteen years, according to the official publication of the Jacksonville, Florida, Department of Public Recreation, the city has had lighted playgrounds. In the early days strings of lights and huge reflectors resembling washtubs were considered ultramodern in the lighting field,



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and wooden poles and a network of overhead wires were accepted as standard equipment. Now Jacksonville has 407 aluminum or porcelain reflectors, each holding a 1,500 watt bulb. These are mounted on steel poles with underground wiring and conduit. Of the 121 facilities on the thirty areas under the jurisdiction of the Department, seventy-eight are lighted for night use. These include football gridirons, swimming pools, softball and baseball diamonds, tennis, roque, and shuffleboard courts, horseshoe pitching lanes, and apparatus areas. The lighting does not stop with permanent installations on established areas. Through cooperation with Jacksonville's municipally owned utilities, street dances, roller skating carnivals, and block parties take place in sections of the city remote from playgrounds. The usual procedure at these affairs is to string up festoons of colored lights along the sides of the street and floodlight the middle with portable projectors mounted on the Department's trucks.

**"Never a Dull Moment"**—This is the name given a collection of games and stunts which require only some paper, pencils, a deck of cards, and a box of anagrams. There are thirty-five party

## Joseph Lee Day 1942

**J**OSEPH LEE DAY will be observed this year on Friday, July 31st. The National Recreation Association will be glad to receive special suggestions for the observance of the day which have come out of local programs in past years.

It may be fitting this year to remember that Joseph Lee was decorated with the Distinguished Service Medal after World War I for his service as a member of the War Department Commission on Training Camp Activities.

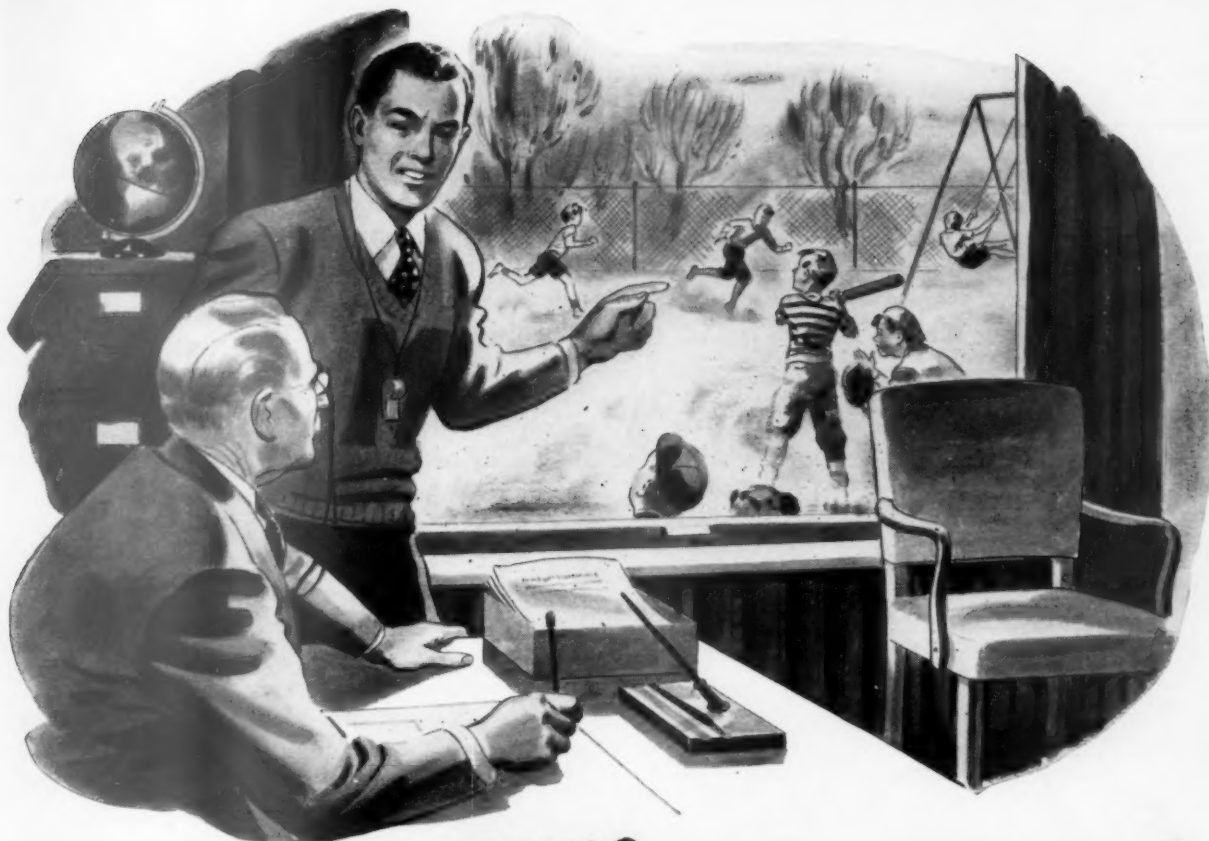
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games in the collection, twelve stunts, twenty-five forfeit suggestions, eight brain baffleers, and ten party recipes. The material is published by the National Association Service, 2017 Glenwood Avenue, Toledo, Ohio. Price \$1.00, plus 10 cents for mailing.

**A Wood Carving Contest**—*Science and Mechanics*, published at 800 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, has announced a wood carving contest which calls for the whittling of a statuette of Lum and Abner, two well known radio personalities. The contest, which is described in the February-March issue of *Science and Mechanics*, will close on June 1st. Further information may be secured from Mr. V. D. Angerman, publisher.

**A New Physical Ability Test**—Dr. G. M. Gloss of Louisiana State University has prepared a Physical Ability Test (Males) which should be very helpful in connection with the physical fitness campaign now being conducted throughout the country. The battery of tests he has outlined is designed to measure speed, skill in handling objects, control of one's body, strength, and "power explosiveness," all of which are necessary to the equipment of a physically effective soldier, sailor, marine, aviator, student, or worker. The test has great possibilities in enabling youths to see how they compare with others and how much improvement may be made by practice in these events or by participation in other physical activities which would tend to better the qualities mentioned. The tests are easily recorded and the equipment required is readily available. The tests may be ordered from the New York University Bookstore, 18 Washington Place, New York City. A package of ten tests may be secured at \$1.00; 100 tests, \$9.00; 500 tests, \$35.00; and 1,000 tests, \$50.00.





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**A Travel Contest**—*The Instructor Magazine*, which last November celebrated its fiftieth birthday, has announced its fifteenth travel contest for the best letters of approximately 500 words on "Where I Should Like to Go on My Vacation This Year—and Why." The contest is open to teachers, principals, supervisors, superintendents, and others engaged in executive or secretarial work in schools. The contest closes June 10, 1942. Full details may be secured from W. D. Conklin, Travel Editor, *The Instructor*, Dansville, New York.

### In Defense of Recreation

(Continued from page 32)

tion program. After the first reading of the town budget the entire recreation program was voted. At the second and final reading two days later this action was sustained.

#### Some Conclusions

The Bloomfield and Montclair campaigns had several elements in common. First of all, the in-

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dividuals who attacked the recreation appropriations seemed to be uninformed as to the actual activities involved or they argued almost wholly from the standpoint of tax reduction. Citizens who were for recreation displayed a broad social intelligence and sympathy and showed familiarity with the actual program.

Delinquency reduction and the demonstrated value of recreation in wartime England were among the effective reasons cited for maintaining the recreation appropriations. The physical preparedness argument was also convincing.

The experiences of these two communities show that both in the case of a long-established program and a new one strong and effective citizen support can be mobilized to protect recreation. In both towns immediate action had to be taken. It is evident that recreation departments in many communities must face similar threats this year and throughout the duration of the war. The answer is to prepare for them. Adapt your program to the war situation and then keep an ever-growing circle of organizations and individuals informed of what you are doing. That circle should include your mayor and the members of the town governing body. Draw up the outlines of a campaign and secure the acceptance of people who are to be in key positions. Prepare now, for your town's program may be the next under attack.

### "Gathering May"

(Continued from page 5)

you can make dashing costumes, and all children like to wear these romantic trappings. Have a Maypole of course, trimmed with paper chains and garlands, if you cannot have the real flowers.

A Robin Hood pageant would start things off well. Alfred Noyes has a splendid poem—"A Song of Sherwood"—which the children could act out to music, one of them reading the poem, or each one coming forward and reciting a verse, while the others pantomimed the action in the background.

Anyway, we recommend that you read it, to get yourself into the right mood for May, and then you will find yourself with many more ideas to add to those we have suggested.

Sherwood in the twilight, is Robin Hood awake?  
Grey and ghastly shadows are gliding through the brake:  
Shadows of the dappled deer, dreaming of the morn,  
Dreaming of a shadowy man that winds a shadowy horn.

Merry, merry England is waking as of old,  
With eyes of blither hazel and hair of brighter gold,  
For Robin Hood is here again, beneath the burning spray,  
In Sherwood, in Sherwood, about the break of day.



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For more than 56 years the greatest sluggers in baseball have depended upon Genuine Autographed Louisville Slugger bats to win the batting honors for them that have meant fame and fortune. Big League players recognize the superior craftsmanship and quality built into H & B bats. Your team members, too, will reflect in their play the confidence which good bats inspire when they step up to the plate.

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## "Games for Quiet Hours and Small Spaces"

THE publication of a large edition of *Games for Quiet Hours and Small Spaces* for use in the Recreation Kit suggested for air raid shelters has made it possible to offer this booklet at the low price of 20 cents each.

You may never have purchased a copy of the earlier and more expensive edition. If so, you will not want to miss the opportunity to secure the booklet at this reduced price.



**National Recreation Association**  
315 Fourth Avenue, New York City

## Fishing — A Sport for All

(Continued from page 30)

handles. Replace tube with two large nails. Stick in two trees. Use both as driers.

4. Weedless hook. Tie a rubber band through the eye of the hook, then loop over barb—tight band will not interfere with your strike.
5. Stringers for loose hooks. Use small or large safety pin for each size hooks. Hooks will not be tangled.
6. Remove fish odor from hands. First wash hands in clear water. Then use ordinary table salt and then again use soap and more water.
7. Bass in the daylight like lures that resemble minnows, small frogs, crawfish. Don't forget the "plunker" that plunks when you jerk the line. It makes a noise and attracts the inquisitive bass.
8. The splash or silent cast is controversial. Use your own judgment after experience in the place where you are fishing. Plugs cause varied opinion. However, the casting of a fly should be more delicate and silent. The insect alights on top of the water without noise

or splash—therefore you must be a good imitator.

9. Natural baits such as worms, crawfish, angleworms, and minnows should be cast silently so as to imitate the natural movement.
10. The best lure for night fishing is the surface or popping lure. It does not sink but floats on the surface. By jerking it makes a bubbling sound. The bass strikes first—too late for him to change his mind after caught.
11. A wobbler can be prepared and used for night fishing. It can act as a surface lure and under water lure. If it is luminous, it is a deadly agent for the fish and is found most effective.
12. Release unwanted fish under water. If the barb is in a tough place, it is all right for the fish to be in the air for a short time. Don't press down on the fish's breathing organs.
13. Weather knowledge and proper seamanship must work together.
14. Cloud formations mean a storm.
15. A good small boat is safer than a big one in poor condition.
16. Use wire clothespins to hold fishing rods.

## Need for Conservation

The decrease in the number of fishing waters due to pollution, factory-infected streams, commercial netting and waste, has taken a serious toll of edible fish. Netting and commercialized fishing devices even to the point of illegal dynamiting have done destructive work.

Were it not for the hatcheries operated from funds received from license fees of anglers, and our strict conservation laws, our lakes and streams would be deleted, and fishing would become a lost art, the oldest known to man.

"There is an educational job ahead for every real angler. With increased population and leisure coupled with ever-widening transportation facilities, it is certain that more and more people will look to the woods and streams for pleasure and relaxation. It is a trend that nothing will stop. . . . Our job is to help the new recruits to enjoy the streams as we do now and to share with them the keen joy we find in the sudden flash of a silver fish in a quiet pool. . . . It will be far better for all of us if these new members of the angling fraternity share with us our love of the sport and its setting than to have them, unwittingly, through a lack of understanding we who know the sport could have prevented." \*

\* Monroe, Walter S. ed. *Encyclopedia of Educational Research*, New York: The Macmillan Company, 1941.

## National Story League to Meet

ON AUGUST 24, 1942, the first national convention of the National Story League will convene at the Whitcomb Hotel in San Francisco. It will be in session through the 27th of August. The Golden Gate Story League, an affiliate of the national group, is working on plans in cooperation with other groups in the western district to make this event an outstanding one. Plans include a president's luncheon at which the national president, the presidents of the district groups, and others will tell stories. An authors' luncheon will honor the people who write the stories. There will be a barbecue in beautiful Sigmund Stern grove. A tour of the city has been planned to show the visitors many of San Francisco's historic sights and to give them a bird's-eye view of San Francisco.

Service programs are being planned to fill an entire afternoon. Everyone at the convention will have an opportunity to tell stories either on the radio or to groups of children on playgrounds, hospitals, and community centers.

On the final day of the convention there will be a business meeting for the election and installation of officers. Further information may be secured from Miss Hester Proctor, 2435 Sacramento Street, San Francisco.

## Nature's Quiz-quest

(Continued from page 36)

1. The weasel family.
2. Beavers make mud patties and place beaver scent upon them for matrimonial advertising.
3. Yes, the desert pocket mouse.
4. The barred owl is the "Edgar Bergen" of the wilderness.
5. Yes, the common deer mouse is a tree-climber.
6. Yes, the horned toad.
7. The Baltimore oriole.
8. Yes, they use scent to discourage enemies and also use it in courtship.
9. Yes, they give off formic acid as they journey about.
10. Round.

## Gardening for Pleasure

(Continued from page 35)

book: "The best time for me to work in my garden is in the morning when the sun is high or after supper when the sun is dropping down to rest."

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Remember, too, that your garden is going to be hard work, but after all, what is the use of something that is too easy? Hunt up all the interesting things you can find about your flowers and your vegetables. Would it interest you to know that most of the vegetables that you are planting are immigrants? Some of them have received their citizenship papers because we have known them so long, but the celery first came from Germany, and the onion from Egypt. Cucumbers came from the East Indies; radish is a native of China and Japan, while peas are of European origin. Of course, corn and some of the beans belong to America, and so we go on. A country which has received its people from all over the world can naturally take vegetables and flowers from all over the world and make them grow. Pears and apples came from Europe, and spinach from Arabia. The next time your mother tells you you must eat your spinach, you just say to her, "Please let me have a little of the Arabian immigrant," and that will be your spinach.

Jot down in the back of your garden book what has not grown very well, so that you do better with it next year, or drop it out of your garden.

## "The Picnic Book"

• Everything you want to know about picnicking—from preliminary planning to the final event on the program—will be found in this new and comprehensive book prepared for the National Recreation Association by Clark Fredrikson.

In addition to the usual program material—games, races, water stunts, and similar activities—there is a section on outings in rural communities and a chapter containing suggestions for special occasions out of doors—and here more than twenty novel outings are outlined. There are, too, suggestions for picnic and outing services, for picnic hampers, and fire building.

You will find this book invaluable.

**Price \$1.25**

**National Recreation Association**

**315 Fourth Avenue**

**New York City**

Be generous with your flowers and vegetables. Help your mother with the flower arrangements. She would love to have you do that, I am sure.

So let us say this year that we are gardening not only for victory, vitamins, and vitality, but also for pleasure and for good hard work, for a lot of work is wrapped around every hour we spend in our gardens.

## The Dauphin County Folk Festival

*(Continued from page 39)*

Public School District of Harrisburg. Also joining the group will be the Perry County Country Dance Group and the Pennsylvania Corn Husking Champions. A combined chorus of two hundred voices from the senior high schools will sing Walt Whitman's poem, "I Hear America Singing," set to music by Pennsylvania's composer, Dr. Harvey Gaul, who will conduct.

How the Dauphin County Folk Festival began is an interesting story. It was not organized out of "a clear sky." It grew out of things people do and like—their interests, their feeling of responsibility for joining in a united effort for Ameri-

can unity. It took shape back in the year 1936, when the federal government set up agencies for "work jobs" in the educational and recreational fields, including music, under the Work Projects Administration. In 1935 a county-wide harvest music festival was held in Hershey, the chocolate town of Pennsylvania. Through this experiment of pulling twelve communities together in a thousand-voiced chorus, there were discovered many kinds of talent. We began to realize that we had interesting groups in the county which we had never known about, but they were isolated. A plan was developed for integrating them into our community life. This was done in May 1936, when the Dauphin County Folk Council was organized for the purpose of encouraging all nationality and racial groups to become socially conscious of their contribution to American culture, and of fostering and preserving the traditional arts of all people. Philosophies, methods and procedures were outlined. Sub-committees composed of representatives from the various groups were selected and their duties outlined.

The Folk Council demanded that the festivals be free to the public, and that expenses of the production should be raised by the sponsoring body. All groups developed their own presentations. The Dauphin County Folk Council requested the assistance of the personnel of the Education and Recreation Program of the Work Projects Administration, and of the National Youth Administration. The Department of Public Instruction became the legal sponsor.

The first folk festival, the "Festival of Nations," took place in May 1936. Twenty-five hundred persons took part. Three thousand people jammed the Forum and as many were turned away. Much improvement was necessary, and the Council realized that this improvement had to take place within the groups. In 1937 many hazards were overcome. In 1938 the festival took on the name "Americans All," dramatizing the theme, "The Triumph of Spring." In 1939 "Famous Folk Tales" formed the basic idea; in 1940 "Folk Ways"; in 1941 "The March of Freedom." All of these contributed to the theme, "American Unity Through Music" for 1942.

The State Federation of Music Clubs of Pennsylvania will be the distinguished guests of the festival during the week of their state convention in Harrisburg. Much good has come out of these festivals. Many traditional instruments have been



"pulled out of the attic." Interesting handcrafts and needlecrafts of various kinds have been rediscovered. Foreign-born individuals have received their citizenship papers. Four scholarships have been given to talented youths. Happiness has come into many lives.

We believe that these festivals are civilian defense in action! Let there be no "blackout" of the beautiful things of life.

## The Festival of Nations

(Continued from page 40)

ing a costume typical of her heritage, who twine around three Maypoles bunting of red, white, and blue. Another finale will be known as "Waltz Varieties," and in this couples of many nationality communities will demonstrate various forms of the waltz as it has come down from different countries, beckoning the spectators to join the whirl of gaiety that marks the end of the program. On one evening there will be a demonstration of the Viennese waltz by couples recruited from many groups, all in 1850 Viennese costumes.

During the fall and winter about eighty people, young and old, have been learning a western square dance under the direction of Wilbur McCandless who spent some time with the Lloyd Shaw dancers in Denver. Young people of Norwegian, Danish, and Swedish backgrounds will do a combined dance, using different steps to a folk tune common to all three countries. After each group has illustrated its own version of the dance, the three groups will dance the three forms simultaneously. These groups will also take part in a special dance on which they have been working for several years. Another program, called "Rendezvous," will feature numbers put on by people of Swiss, Hungarian, German, and Austrian backgrounds in a garden cafe scene. Greek, Roumanian, and Syrian girls are working out a circle dance of steps traditional to their various homelands.

The unity of our nation in wartime, our prayers for guidance, courage, and a just peace will find expression in a special service on Sunday afternoon which will follow the first hour of the festival program. A committee composed of two Protestant clergymen, a Greek Orthodox and two Roman Catholic priests, and a rabbi of the Jewish Conservative Temple have planned this part of the program as a half hour devoted to America's religious heritage. Choirs of the various denomi-

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nations, singing "America the Beautiful" as they enter, will present a short program of religious music accompanied by a series of tableaux. The service will close with a short prayer and with the singing by the audience of the last verse of "America."

## First Aid for Recreation Supplies

(Continued from page 22)

found a flexible, durable, washable paint compound containing rubber, which when applied to gym mats provides a most excellent covering which adds years to the life of the mats, and which permits keeping them clean by washing with soap and water. But this product is available only on the Pacific Coast and must be applied by experienced painters with paint shop facilities.

Again, crokinole boards are fairly expensive and when subjected to rough playground use they come apart at the corner joints. This failure can be prevented by installing a curved flat  $\frac{1}{8}$ " x 1" iron band around each corner. However, here the services of a machinist or a blacksmith are necessary.

## Finger Puppets and How to Use Them

(Continued from page 33)

while they are en route by the dramatization with finger puppets of stories having to do with country life and with the places to which they are going.

NOTE: A bulletin entitled "Finger Puppets" by Sylvia Block, which tells how to make the puppets, may be secured from the National Recreation Association for ten cents.



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## Engine of war!

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The part the typewriter is playing in America's war with the axis powers is a vital one, for speed and more speed is the very essence of our armament program.

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Even on the field of battle, the typewriter must help correlate the fast-moving action. The typewriter is with our fleet at sea, for each aircraft carrier, each battleship, cruiser, destroyer, and submarine... each unit of our Navy, down to the little mosquito boats, has typewriters on board.

Wherever men and women work in war industries, wherever soldiers and sailors go to fight, the typewriter must go with them. That is why the Royal Typewriter Company is proud to be called upon to help provide the United States Government with the typewriters needed by an America at war.



## ROYAL *World's No. 1* TYPEWRITER

### Emergency Crafts

(Continued from page 13)

and the tin then rolled out flat before it was cut to the finished shape. The lines creased into the small scone were made by placing the tin on a

piece of cardboard and the design pressed in with an old table knife.

Except for its stiffness tin plate is worked about the same way as paper so that patterns made of paper are always practical in tin.

## From the First Vice-President, National Recreation Association Ambassador John G. Winant

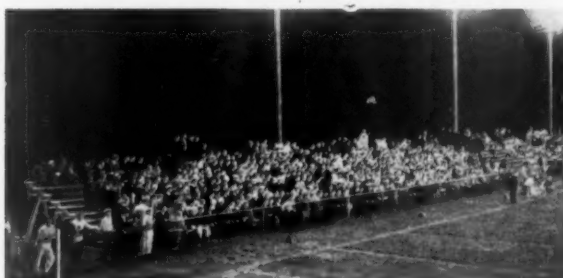


PM Photo by Mary Morris

"**A**BRAMHAM LINCOLN, like us, hated the tyranny of man over man. He was, as we are, the foe of any doctrine which seeks to enslave one race to another. He, as we do, always insisted that democratic government with all its faults was one form of government ultimately compatible with the dignity of the human spirit. He passed, as we have passed, through the valley of the shadow of death to the victory of a great principle. In these troublous, uncertain days, when all we love and cherish are at stake, this time-swept city of London, which has stood close to two thousand years, gives added anchorage to hope and faith in the future of mankind."



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## A Mexican Fiesta

(Continued from page 19)

it is then covered with grated cheese and put into a hot oven till the cheese melts. Served on a bed of chopped lettuce.

**Raspada**—Shaved ice (for large amounts a special shaving machine is rented) is put into a paper cornucopia. Fruit juices are poured down over this, melting the ice particles together and giving the whole its flavor.

**Huapango**—Fast foot-rhythm dance often used to announce the coming to town of a peddler.

**Jarabe**—A dance of which every state has its own version, compiled of simple folk dance tunes and steps.

**Sundunga**—Type of ritual dance in Southern Mexico. Usually celebrates some occasion close to mother's heart such as marriage, birth.

**Atole**—A thick chocolate made of the Mexican chocolate bar sweetened with Mexican candies and usually thickened with flour or barley. Often flavored with cinnamon. The result is like thick chocolate sauce.



**Bunuelo**—A flat, round Mexican cookie about seven inches in diameter and an eighth of an inch thick. Made of flour and eggs, and shaped like a tortilla. It is fried in deep fat as doughnuts are fried, then dipped into powdered sugar. (Sometimes flavored with cinnamon.)

**Pinata**—Made of crepe paper pasted onto an *oya* (thin clay jar) or made of papier-mâché. It may be shaped to represent an animal head, a fruit, the head of an old man or woman, or covered with lovely paper flowers. The size of a pumpkin, it is filled with candy and nuts and used at birthdays, Christmas, and *fiestas* or *jamaicas*. The pinata is suspended from a rope thrown with the other end across a wire or tree limb. At the loose end stands a boy, to raise and lower the pinata and thus make the game more confusing. "It" is blindfolded, given three whirls about, and faced toward the pinata, which he tries to break by striking it with a cane. Broken, the pinata spills its sweetmeats onto the ground.

**Rebozo**—Long scarf or shawl, usually black or navy blue.

**Loteria**—Mexican game similar to Bingo. Nine playing cards are pasted onto a cardboard, and each player is given one. The dealers in the center draw from a pack of cards to get the duplicates to be covered by the players at the tables. The three in a row wins the prize, as in Bingo.

## A Timely Warning to Wartime America

(Continued from page 6)

in the evenings. Because nobody in the government had worked the thing out beforehand, the government at the war's outbreak suddenly embarked on the wholesale and disastrous policy of commandeering club premises and calling up, or enlisting, the people who had been responsible for running them.

The result is that hundreds of those clubs have gone completely out of action and that thousands of children, who depended upon them for recreation, have had to find it in other ways.

This situation is now being corrected by the development of a great system of youth centers throughout the country. Yet everybody admits that the situation should not ever have arisen, and that it certainly can be prevented from arising in the United States.

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## Nature Recreation in Essex County's Parks

(Continued from page 11)

of them was our good fortune in being able to secure the services of Professor John Kovald, a biology major from the New Jersey State Teachers College in Montclair, who was then working for his M.A. degree and is now studying for his doctorate. Professor Kovald, who is a member of the science faculty at Panzer College of Physical Education in East Orange, has proved his value to this department each year not only because of his ability to inspire children and play leaders alike, but because of his willingness to lead nature hikes for adults at all seasons of the year.

Our handcraft activities are correlated with nature exploration, and the handcraft specialist has worked out a plan whereby the activities of the playground season are tied in with nature recreation.

Perhaps one of the things which helps inspire leadership to carry on between visits of the specialists is the fact that, other things being equal, we attempt, in selecting the staff of play leaders, to secure young men and women who have been Scouts and who have spent some time at camp either as campers or junior counselors, or both. We have had several Eagle Scouts on our staff, and by using one or more of these young men it has been possible to supplement Professor Kovald's services in leading hikes for groups other than our own during July and August, as well as at other seasons of the year when there were requests to lead more than one group at the same time. One of these leaders, who had been a Scout master and then went on to major in biology at Columbia, has been especially helpful in this respect and conducted several hikes for this department last year.

In 1940 we read an article in *RECREATION* telling about a traveling museum. We passed this on to Professor Kovald who assembled and transported to every playground in the system during the first week of the season a collection of minerals, woods, snakes, animals, and birds. This display, much of which was loaned by the Newark Museum, was so enthusiastically received by the children that it was repeated last year and will be a part of the plan this year when we hope to carry just a little further the program of trail games, nature play, and exploration for children and adults.

## Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of  
Current Interest to the Recreation Worker

### MAGAZINES

*The American City*, February 1942

"Recreation for War Workers" by Paul V. McNutt

*Beach and Pool*, February 1942

"Availability of Chlorine in the Form of Hypochlorites" by Henry Armbrust. Government priorities for swimming pools and water works

"Points for Consideration in Beach Development" by Capt. T. W. Sheffield

*Hobbies* (Magazine of the Buffalo Museum of Science), December 1941

"Buy Gadgets at the Five-and-Dime and Set Up a Bird Restaurant" by Heather G. Thorpe

*Journal of Health and Physical Education*, February 1942

"A Recreational Games Program" by Edna Cole

*Monthly Bulletin* (Indiana State Board of Health), January 1942

"There Is a Time for Play" by Thurman B. Rice, M.D.

*Motive* (Methodist Student Magazine), February 1942

"Folk Art and Abundance in Living"

*Music Educators Journal*, February-March 1942

"Music in the National Effort." Dramatizing community unity and building civilian morale

*Musical America*, February 10, 1942

"Our Fighting Men Turn to Music" by Jay Walz

*The Nation's Schools*, February 1942

"Swimming Pools Made Safe" by Raymond C. Harrison

*Parks and Recreation*, February 1942

"Design for a Bicycle Rack" by Charles Rapp

"Uxbridge Field in Massachusetts" by Herbert J. Kellaway. Planning modern recreation facilities

*Scholastic Coach*, February 1942

"Making the Badminton Strokes" by Hugh Forgie

*School Activities*, February 1942

"Development of Six-Player Field Hockey" by Katherine M. Rahl

### PAMPHLETS

*An Evening of Old Time Social Dancing* prepared by Aksel G. Nielsen. Description and music for twelve "popular" old time dances

Division of Community Service Programs, Work Projects Administration, 1206 South Santee Street, Los Angeles, California.

*Fun in an Air Raid Shelter* by elementary staff members and elementary club members

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, price \$.05

*Hometown Games and Crafts*

Division of Community Service Programs, Work Projects Administration, 1206 South Santee Street, Los Angeles, California



## There Is a Time for Play

(Continued from page 12)

position of a patient who is going to the hospital tomorrow for a painful operation. We shall be the better ready for the ordeal if we forget tomorrow and get a good night's sleep. Not that we intend to forget tomorrow and another tomorrow, but only that there is nothing that we can do about tomorrow tonight.

So then let us go to the movies—if there is really a good one—and see before our very eyes the way men and women and children should and do live in a world at peace. It will help us to remember what we have lost for the moment. It may keep bright the image of a better world than the one we now live in. Or why not read a book—a good book about the time when there was sense and justice in the world. If one should take a walk in the park or through the woods, it would help him to get back to a sound base away from the distortions of these times. A red hot game of tennis—table, lawn or clay court—will clear the head if anything will. Get acquainted with the kids in the family—or if there are no kids—the dog. How carefree our dog seems these days. He doesn't seem a bit worried with the present situation. He seems to know that there will be dogs on this old earth for a long time yet and that the most important thing in the world is that he may have occasionally a word of praise from the Master who lives in the Big House. Let's have some music—singing, instrumental, radio or phonograph. Some community games or singing would help. What about a home talent play? Let's go to the basketball game and forget everything else this evening. Now that we have worked today, come let us play tonight. If we have worked we have earned the right to play—and besides it will make us better workmen tomorrow.

Editorial note: In regard to the reference to the use of rubber balls, it should be explained that Dr. Rice's editorial was written before the rubber shortage had become as acute as it is today.

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## It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

(Continued from page 38)

in and out of the museum. Children learning to care for alligators, a stamp collecting club, a Pueblo Indian play, July Jaunters Sea Shore trip, a stamp club, and children gaining tolerance in a Japanese room were some of the activities portrayed.

*Kenneth Pike*, educational staff of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, has been carrying on a demonstration program in the town forest of Manchester, Massachusetts. The site was selected by the children who spend one school day there every other week.

*Dr. L. B. Sharp*, Executive Director of Life Camps, Inc.: It may be a Godsend to get along with less rubber. It is putting America on its feet. The more we use our soles the less we use our seats. Everything that faces us (except the loss of life) is a distinct asset. We have to reinterpret values. If it comes to taking down a historic tree, I would say "yes", if necessary. But let us have selective draft in our natural resources. Camping has been too soft. We have been pampered, have

gotten into a groove. We have dragged baseball bats to the woods and called it camping. We are in the war. We have no choice. We can't go back to Plymouth Rock and start all over. The kinds of experiences we give now are as important as the fundamentals that we associate with the Pilgrims. Let's see them and let's see them now.

*George Sinnicks*, State College senior, pointed out that the day's program must be adapted to the needs of the camp visited. The camps which stood out in conservation education were the Salvation Army Camp at Sharon, the Boston Boys' Club Camp Wing at Duxbury, and Camp Tahona for Jewish boys near Great Barrington. He concluded that in each case it was due to fine leadership.

*Maurice Sullivan*, park naturalist, Acadia National Park, called attention to the President's admonition that relaxation and recreation are absolute necessities. The National Park Service is custodian of outdoor shrines. Few people can visit these shrines without coming away with the belief that the democratic way is best. This is basic in morale. Each year over 20,000,000 visitors come into contact with these benefits. Those who stay long enough often develop an interest in birds, flowers, geology, photography, or forestry that becomes a life hobby. National parks are also refresher areas for enlisted men.

*Dr. Richard Weaver*, naturalist at Dartmouth College: We cannot go on at the present rate. We need walnut, so we cut down all of the trees. Haste makes waste. States with good conservation departments, such as Wisconsin, Ohio, and Michigan, started programs in schools. Progressive education departments took the initiative in West Virginia, Tennessee, Missouri, and Florida. States with the most money often have the poorest programs.

*Professor George W. Westcott*, extension economist, Massachusetts State College: On December 7 Massachusetts towns were streamlined into Rural War Action Committees for the duration. Three hundred towns went into action to work out a program in food production, health, nutrition, and morale. Conservation includes human resources and time, defense recreation, and postwar planning. The Public Work Reserve shelf will include many conservation projects to which we can turn after the war. They should be listed now.



## New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

### The Audubon Guide to Attracting Birds

Edited by John H. Baker. Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc., Garden City, New York. \$2.50.

"LIFE WOULD be pretty drab without birds," says the author in his introduction, and so this practical and authoritative guide on attracting birds to home surroundings will be a source of help to those who respond to the presence of birds around their homes and seek to conserve their numbers. There are chapters on bird photography and banding, on providing homes and feeding and drinking stations, on bird sanctuaries and watered areas. Some beautiful illustrations accompany the text.

### Home Handicraft for Girls

By Ruth M. Hall and A. Neely Hall. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia. \$2.50.

THERE ARE MORE than four hundred drawings and photographs in this attractive book designed to guide the girl in the use of her hands and in creating her own amusements. The subjects covered include seasonal entertainments, outdoor and indoor gardening, directions for making attractive modern accessories for every room in the house, simple ways of making toys, of carrying out a program of amateur photography, and of making various kinds of Christmas cards.

### Weaving for Amateurs

By Helen Coates. The Studio Publications, Inc., New York. \$3.50.

ONE OF THE OLDEST and most essential arts of mankind is described in this book, and since weaving can be as simple or as complicated as desired, this presentation of the subject begins with the simplest forms of loom and woven fabric, and leads by stages to the more elaborate form of hand loom, showing how by its use almost every conceivable arrangement of pattern and texture can be achieved. Every phase of weaving is discussed, including spinning and the processes involved in it. The illustrations are very effective.

### Handbook of Recreation Areas and Facilities

Prepared with the assistance of the Division of Community Service Programs, WPA. Published by the Florida State Planning Board.

THERE ARE TWO VOLUMES in this publication. Volume One contains working drawings of selected recreation facilities and areas ranging from benches to athletic fields. In Volume Two will be found the bills of materials required for the construction of the areas and facilities which appear in Volume One, together with such pertinent data and information as are considered essential to their design and construction. Individual bills of materials with accompanying working drawings for

each of the facilities and areas may be obtained from the Florida State Planning Board, Administration Building, Tallahassee, Florida, at a cost of 20 cents each. A complete set—Volume One and Volume Two—may be secured for \$6.00.

### Our Songs

Compiled by Mary A. Sanders. Available from author, 39 East 78th Street, New York. \$30.

A COLLECTION OF SONGS prepared for those interested in recreational singing, especially with children from seven to eleven years of age. It is intended for sociable, companionable uses—at clubs, in camps, or on the move. The aim has been to include a song for every mood or occasion. The melody is given for each song. Seven singing games and five songs for dramatization are included in the collection.

### Fifty Things to Make for the Home

By Julian Starr, Jr. Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. \$2.00.

AS IN THE CASE of its companion piece, *Make It Yourself*, this book has been written for the average amateur. Directions are simple and easy to follow, and with few exceptions require the use of hand tools only. In addition to the directions for the projects, there are chapters on "The Value of a Home Workshop," "Common Hand Tools," "The Care of Common Hand Tools," "A Workbench," and "Power Tools."

### Footlight Fun

By Sally Coulter. Silver Burdett Company, New York. \$2.36.

THIS BOOK OF PLAYS for children in grades six to ten contains four plays with full production notes for each and general suggestions on producing, staging, and costuming plays. The plays are lively and fun to put on.

### Outdoors with the Camera

By Paul Grabbe and Joseph E. Sherman. Harper and Brothers, New York. \$2.50.

THIS BOOK IS UNIQUE in that every common experience in picture taking is illustrated with "right and wrong" snapshots and brief explanatory captions. It records play by play the process of learning to take good pictures. Charts, diagrams, and tables for quick reference supply a ready means for making the most casual snapshots successful and satisfying pictures.

### It's Fun to Cook

By Lucy Mary Maltby. The John C. Winston Company, Philadelphia. \$2.00.

A COOK BOOK in story form is an innovation, and the author has achieved something new and different in this gay story in which cookery problems are presented

in true-to-life situations. The author has personally tested all of the recipes and has presented each one in an understandable and simple form. The book is printed in two colors and is profusely illustrated with 206 pictures, of which 141 are photographs and 65 clever drawings by Ruth King.

#### Walk Your Way to Better Dancing.

By Lawrence A. Hostetler. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$2.00.

Using the walk as a basis, Mr. Hostetler outlines the fundamentals of successful dancing, developing in logical sequence through body control and correct walking into the dance-walk, and finally leading and following a partner. This foundation technique he applies to all the modern dances. A complete picture of modern social dancing is given from natural elementary movements through advanced dance figures.

#### Democracy in Action.

By Sarah Morrison and Emily P. Wilson. The Girls' Friendly Society, U.S.A., 386 Fourth Avenue, New York. \$25.

In this pamphlet the Girls' Friendly Society offers a program on Christianity and democracy. Divided into two sections, it offers a program for children under fourteen, and activities and discussions for young people and adults. In the booklet will be found the following: *Democracy Begins at Home* (family fun and health); *Who Is An American?*; *Listen to the People* (propaganda and news); and *Making Things Happen in Our Town* (suggestions for finding out what democracy and the American way mean for people in your town).

#### Patriotic Songs of America.

A song booklet which is available in limited quantities from the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company of Boston, and may be secured on request by recreation departments, schools, and similar organizations. Included are the words and music and annotations for eight old songs which are a very part of our history and development as a nation.

Copies of a leaflet giving the correct ways of displaying and saluting the flag are also available on request from this same company.

#### Famous Quotations.

Chosen and arranged by Eleanor Boykin. Home Institute, 109 West 19th Street, New York City. \$15.

Variety has been the keynote in selecting the quotations included in this booklet, and you may some day find it very useful to have access through it to some of the wit and wisdom of the ages. All of the quotations given are classified under alphabetical subjects such as charm, reading, seasons, travel, youth, and others.

#### Flower Arranging—A Fascinating Hobby.

By Laura Lee Burroughs. Volume 2. Obtainable from the Coca-Cola Company, Atlanta, Georgia. \$10.

During the past few years flowers have played an increasing role in the decorative scheme of homes. This attractive pamphlet, with its many colored illustrations, offers many suggestions for combining and arranging flowers in a way which will make for a maximum of beauty.

#### Checklist of Free and Low-Cost Books and Pamphlets for Use in Adult Education.

American Association for Adult Education, 60 East 42nd Street, New York. \$15.

The Association has made available in a twenty-four page pamphlet a list of the books and pamphlets ex-

hibited at its fifteenth annual meeting held in New York City, May 20-23, 1940. Since of the 850 agencies invited to participate 630 submitted materials for the exhibit, the list covers a wide range of subjects.

Inquiries regarding the checklist should be addressed to Harriet Van Wyck, librarian of the Association.

#### Physical Fitness.

Supplement to *The Research Quarterly*. American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation. \$1.00.

The May 1941 issue of *Supplement to The Research Quarterly* of the American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation is dedicated to the memory of James Huff McCurdy, M.D. The monograph contains some of the significant selections from the research findings of Springfield College in the field of physical fitness. The purpose has been to evaluate scientific information and help in applying the data to actual situations in the hope that a higher level of physical fitness may be attained. Dr. Thomas K. Cureton was Chairman of the committee which prepared the monograph and George B. Affleck, Secretary-Editor. A number of faculty members of Springfield College contributed chapters.

#### Dynamic Democracy.

Edited by Harrison M. Sayre. American Education Press, Inc., 400 South Front Street, Columbus, Ohio. \$25.

A booklet which tells how American youth through their own organizations are working to strengthen America. It outlines educational objectives of some of the leading youth organizations and shows how these can supplement existing school programs.

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